

Poland to be linked with arms talks

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (R) — Secretary of State Alexander Haig prepared to meet Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko over Poland as the State Department today declared that control of nuclear weapons could not be insulated from the Polish crisis. Mr. Haig flies to Geneva this weekend for talks with Mr. Gromyko that were to have lasted for two days and had been expected to set a date for the opening of talks on reduction of the two superpowers' strategic nuclear arsenals. But the State Department announced yesterday that the talks would last only one day and the focus would now be Poland. It was made clear what the administration calls start-strategic arms reduction talks—had been pushed into the background.

Jordan Times

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Moscow urges new ties with Egypt

MOSCOW, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — Soviet Premier Nikolai Tikhonov has sent a message to Egypt's new prime minister, urging improved relations between the two countries, the Soviet news agency TASS reported today. TASS said the message Mr. Tikhonov sent to Ahmad Fuad Mohieddin expressed the wish that "your activities in this responsible post will promote normalisation and development of Soviet-Egyptian relations." His message echoed one that Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev sent to Hosni Mubarak after his election as president of Egypt last October.

Iraqi delegation arrives in Manila

MANILA, Jan. 22 (R) — A 30-member Iraqi delegation led by Vice-President Taha Mohieddin Ma'arouf arrived here today for a six-day visit which will include talks on expanding trade. They will also have talks with President Ferdinand Marcos and government officials on cultural, scientific and technological ties, the Philippine foreign ministry said. The Philippines and Iraq established diplomatic relations 16 months ago. The group arrived in Manila via Vietnam at the invitation of the president's wife, Imelda Marcos, who visited Iraq last year. The delegation will have talks with businessmen on the prospects of local contractors in Iraq, where there are already about 20,000 Filipino workers. The delegation will leave for Singapore on Wednesday.

Alwan leaves for Morocco

BEIRUT, Jan. 22 (R) — Iraqi Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hamed Alwan left Baghdad for Rabat today with a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to King Hassan of Morocco, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported. INA said the message was addressed to King Hassan as chairman of the Arab League summit, which broke up in Fez last November after a single session. The summit is expected to resume in Morocco later this year with King Hassan again as chairman. Mr. Alwan will also visit Conakry to deliver a message to Guinean President Ahmad Sekou Toure, INA said.

Juan Carlos hails role in Europe

MADRID, Jan. 22 (R) — King Juan Carlos said today that Spain was becoming active in the movement to unify Europe but would not forsake its traditional ties with Latin America and the Arab countries in the process. "Spain is beginning to become an active agent for the idea of a unified Europe," he told the Madrid diplomatic corps at his annual reception for them. "In becoming again more universal, (Spain) will also become more Hispano-American. Something similar could be said about our natural commitments to the Mediterranean and Arab peoples." Spain, which has applied to join NATO and the European Economic Community (EEC), is emerging from the diplomatic isolation of the 40-year rule of Gen. Franco, who died in 1975. It is expected to enter NATO within a year.

Poll shows Reagan is not improving

NEW YORK, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — Only 1 in 3 Americans says President Reagan will be able to reduce unemployment or inflation or interest rates—largely because no president can have that kind of influence on the economy. The latest Associated Press-NBC news poll also said more people foresee improvement in the economy in general and their personal family finances during the next year, but there was no improvement in public opinion toward Mr. Reagan's performance in office.

Jordan, World Bank sign \$25m agreement

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (Petra) — Jordan is to obtain a \$25 million loan from the World Bank to help finance development of the labour force in Jordan, according to an agreement signed here on Wednesday.

The loan will finance a \$51 million project for the construction of a polytechnic institute in Tafila to turn out skilled manpower for development projects in southern Jordan, as well as the construction of four new vocational training schools in the country.

The Jordanian government will provide \$23.5 million and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will offer \$2.5 million for the project.

The project is expected to turn out annually 750 technicians, 300 vocational teachers, 2430 trained labourers and 285 courses.

The agreement was signed for Jordan by Ambassador Abdul Hadi Al Majali.

Fire guts factory

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (J.T.) — A huge fire broke out last night at a factory manufacturing loofah fibre products, causing damage that ran to tens of thousands of dinars.

Both the factory and its nearby warehouses, located in Marka, were engulfed by a fire that took firemen nearly eight hours to put out. Fire engines from the Civil Defence Directorate in Shmisan, as well as those based at Amman Airport, were called out at 10 p.m. to help put out the fire. Two of the firemen taking part in the operation were overcome by smoke inhalation and had to be treated in hospital.

According to Civil Defence Director Khaled Al Tarawneh, who visited the scene, the fire was caused by a cigarette end which was discarded in the factory area. The factory's poor storage facilities also helped the fire to spread, he said. Maj. Gen. Tarawneh and senior Civil Defence officers supervised the fire-fighting operation.

Israeli leftist 'ready to confer with PLO'

TEL AVIV, Jan. 22 (R) — A leader of the left-wing group in Israel's opposition Labour Party expressed readiness today to confer with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on the possibility of mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO.

Yosef Sarid, a Labour member of the Knesset (parliament), who has frequently been at odds with his party because of his moderate views on the Palestinian problem, told Israel Radio:

"I personally would be ready to confer with the PLO and its leader Yasser Arafat if the purpose of the meeting was to discuss how to get our country and the PLO to recognise each other."

Mr. Sarid added that he doubted such a meeting could be arranged now because "the more moderate elements in both the PLO and Israel have been confined to the sidelines."

The Labour Party, like the other major Israeli political parties, officially opposes any dealings with the PLO, which they consider a terrorist group.

TASS scorns West's sanctions

MOSCOW, Jan. 22 (R) — The Soviet news agency TASS, in a commentary scolding the effect of Western sanctions over Poland, said the West needed trade with the Soviet Union far more than Moscow did.

TASS said "discriminatory measures" against the Soviet Union had failed in the past and would once again fail to have significant impact on the development of Soviet foreign trade and the country's economy.

"The primary losers will be, in fact, initiators of the embargo," TASS said.

Prince, Queen plant Arbor Day tree



His Highness Prince Hamza, with guidance and major assistance from Her Majesty Queen Noor, plants a seedling in an Arbor Day celebration at the

second forest of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature in Na'our Friday (Petra photo—see story on p. 3)

Cheysson says U.S. must support creation of a Palestinian state

LONDON, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — Europe can never co-operate with the United States in a Middle East peace agreement unless Washington supports the idea of a Palestinian state, French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson says in a report to be published next week.

In an interview with the London-based monthly magazine, Middle East, Mr. Cheysson said he hoped the United States would "really accept its responsibility for peacekeeping" after Israel formally hands back the Sinai desert to Egypt on April 25.

"This means they will accept that there are two parties and that the Arab side counts and the Pal-

estians must have a state," said Mr. Cheysson.

"The Europeans cannot work hand in hand with the Americans as long as our assessment of the situation is different from theirs."

Extracts from the interview, conducted in Paris earlier this month, were distributed to Western news agencies in London today prior to publication next week.

Mr. Cheysson also said a Middle East peace would be "almost absurd" without taking the Soviet Union's position into account.

"The Russians support Syria and other forces so they are not simply going to disappear into thin air," he said. Moscow, he added,

would have to give the West a "guarantee," although he did not say what form this should take.

Mr. Cheysson said that unless the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) enters peace talks, the Camp David talks will reach deadlock after Egypt is handed back the Sinai.

"The most important part of a settlement is the fate of the Palestinian people. We do not see how Camp David can ever approach that problem," he said.

He said France supported the peace initiative put forward by Saudi Arabia and that if it gained the support of other Arab states and was "transformed into a plan, this would be great progress."

Mubarak prefers peaceful solutions

TEL AVIV, Jan. 22 (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was quoted today as saying that Egypt was no longer ready to go to war with Israel and would advise other Arab nations to seek peaceful solutions to disputes.

The afternoon newspaper Yediot Aharonot quoted him as saying in an interview that if Syria or any other Arab country consulted Egypt about starting a war against Israel, he would "tell them that wars have not solved anything."

"We tried war a number of times and it achieved nothing," he

said. "Egypt is no longer ready to go to war."

The president said that he would "advise our Arab friends that instead of going from war to the negotiating table we go directly to negotiations."

Egypt and Israel signed a separate peace treaty in March 1979. Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali has said that Egypt has been maintaining contacts with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

He told Israel Radio that the PLO, which had announced that it

was severing relations with Cairo after Egypt signed the Camp David agreement with Israel, had never closed its office in the Egyptian capital.

"The PLO representatives are still in Cairo so the contacts have been there all the time," he said. Egyptian-Israeli relations were growing all the time and constantly opened the possibilities for the future.

"If and when Egypt renews relations with other Arab countries, it will not be at the expense of our relations with Israel," he said.

Zia holds talks with Yugoslav leaders

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — Pakistan's President Zia-ul-Haq had talks here today with Yugoslav President Srdje Karadzic on bilateral relations, the news agency Tanjug reported.

In their first round of talks after the Pakistani leader's arrival here earlier in the day, the two officials focused mainly on ways to expand bilateral economic cooperation and other bilateral topics, Tanjug said.

Gen. Zia arrived here from Romania and was scheduled to stay until Monday when he is due to fly to France, the last stop of a 10-day European tour that started with a visit to Italy.

After his talks in Bucharest, Gen. Zia and Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu called for a political settlement of the Afghan problem.

Although a Warsaw Pact member country, the Romanian Communist regime has been moderately critical of the Soviet occupation of that Asian country.

A joint declaration issued after Gen. Zia arrived in Belgrade said the situation in Afghanistan should be settled through negotiations, "conducive to the cessation of all outside intervention and interference."

This, the statement said, should "secure the independence and free development and non-

aligned status of Afghanistan, in the interest of good neighbourhood and cooperation."

The wording appeared to be a compromise between the two leaders as it did not mention the Soviet troops stationed in the country.

But in the declaration carried by the Romanian state news agency Agerpres, Gen. Zia and Mr. Ceausescu said the U.N. secretary-general ought help achieve a political solution, "including the creation of conditions for solving humanitarian problems resulting from the existing situation."

In an interview with the Belgrade newspaper Orba published two days ago, Gen. Zia said the situation in Afghanistan was "critical."

Jordan renews call for solidarity

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — A Foreign Ministry spokesman said today that despite the government's diplomatic offensive at the United Nations to impose sanctions against Israel for its annexation of the occupied Golan Heights Jordan continues to believe that only genuine Arab solidarity, "translated into joint Arab action and mobilisation of the Arab Nation's potentials, can deter the enemy from carrying out its expansionist aims at the expense of Arab rights and land."

The spokesman was replying to a question by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, on the result of voting at the United Nations Security Council's session two days ago which debated Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights.

The spokesman said that Jordan's position was crystal clear right from the beginning and during the council's deliberations.

"Jordan, called on the council to take effective and decisive measures against Israel. Jordan had also warned against the consequences of a veto to kill the resolution, because such a step will be construed by Israel as an encouragement for its aggressive and expansionist policies at the expense of Arab rights and territories."

Arab League asks ministers to meet Sunday

TUNIS, Jan. 22 (R) — Arab foreign ministers will meet here on Sunday to discuss how to react to Israel's annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights after the United Nations Security Council failed to decide sanctions against Israel.

The special meeting of the Arab League Council was requested by Syria last month after Israel voted a law annexing de facto the Syrian territory it had occupied since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Arab League Secretary-

General Chadli Klibi immediately approached all member states and suggested that the meeting be held on Sunday, the sources said.

Unless a member state specifically asks for a postponement — and no such request has yet been received — the meeting will open on that date, they added.

However, a number of ministers were not expected to attend and will be represented at the ambassador level, the sources said.

Jordan denies Syrian claim

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — Jordan today denied a Syrian report claiming that armed men from Jordan ambushed a Syrian border patrol yesterday, killing an army sergeant and wounding another soldier.

A statement released tonight by the Ministry of the Interior said:

"Radio Damascus quoted a statement by the Syrian Interior Ministry claiming that armed men from Jordan infiltrated Syrian territory yesterday and killed one Syrian soldier and wounded another both of whom were part of a Syrian patrol."

"The same statement added that the armed elements were able to withdraw inside Jordan under cover of fire from the Jordanian Armed Forces."

"The Jordanian government, while expressing its total astonishment at the erroneous contents of the above statement, wishes to stress the fact that no armed

clash of any sort or dimension took place between a Syrian military patrol and armed elements coming from Jordanian territory as the Syrian statement claimed."

"The fact is that travellers and eyewitnesses arriving in Jordan during the period mentioned in the Syrian statement have spoken of armed clashes having taken place in Dera'a during that same period involving Syrian armed elements belonging to the Syrian army and security forces that led to the killing of two persons, one from among the ranks of the Syrian armed forces and the other a civilian."

"Therefore the Jordanian government condemns in the strongest terms the Syrian authorities' tactics of inventing fictitious incidents which greatly harm the Jordanian armed forces and are intended to cover internal incidents happening inside Syria, with which Jordan has nothing to do."

Arab papers denounce U.S. veto, urge measures against Washington

DAMASCUS, Jan. 22 (R) — The Arab World was urged today by an official Syrian newspaper to strike at U.S. interests in the Middle East after Washington's veto of a Security Council resolution calling for sanctions against Israel.

Al Baath, organ of the ruling Baath Party, made clear that the veto two days ago had made the United States enemy number one of the Arabs.

It urged the Arab World to confront the United States and Israel. "This confrontation starts with striking at American interests in the region," the paper said.

Syria led a campaign for U.N. action against Israel after its annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights last month.

In an article accompanying its editorial, Al Baath said Syria had insisted on seeing a sanctions resolution tabled despite the certainty of an American veto because it wanted to reveal the extent of U.S. support for Israel.

In Amman, Jordanian newspapers accused the United States of supporting Israel's "aggressive" policies by vetoing the Security Council resolution, which was tabled by Jordan's U.N. representative.

"The American veto shows that the U.S. actively supports Israeli aggressive actions which aim at thwarting any peace effort in the region," Al Dustour said.

"The veto shows that the (suspended) strategic U.S.-Israeli alliance is in fact stronger than any public agreement. We hold the United States responsible for continued Israeli actions."

Al Dustour also denounced "the negative position" adopted by France, Britain, Japan and Ireland, which abstained on the resolution.

The daily Al Ra'i said the U.S. veto made it clear that the American suspension of the U.S.-Israeli alliance was merely a charade to pacify the Arabs, who should close their ranks to face other Israeli aggressions in the area.

The Iraqi government newspaper Al-Jumhuriya said the veto was one of hundreds of indications confirming the link between U.S. interests and Israel. The voting proved again that total reliance on international arbitration was a failure.

Gulf newspapers also denounced the U.S. veto of the U.N. resolution.

The Abu Dhabi-based daily Al Itihad said in an editorial: "For

one day, stop oil exports to the United States, abandon importing American cars, stop smoking American cigarettes and boycott American schools and universities in our lands."

The paper said the United States vetoed the resolution in the U.N. Security Council on Wednesday "not in Israel's favour or against the Arabs but for American interests."

The Saudi Arabian daily Okaz urged Arab countries to accelerate moves to present a unified front against Israel and not to depend on East or West to restore occupied lands.

It said the time was now ripe for Arabs to resume a summit which was adjourned last November in Fez, Morocco, to work out a joint strategy to regain Arab lands.

The Kuwaiti daily Al Qabas urged all Arab countries to take strong measures against the United States. "There is now no ex-

use for Arab states not to take a collective stand and punish the United States," it said.

Al Rai Al Aam of Kuwait said Arab countries should reconsider their political and diplomatic relations with America in retaliation for the veto.

Another United Arab Emirates (UAE) daily, Al Khaleej, said that the United States would not find any difficulty in imposing its veto again if Amman called for Israeli withdrawal from the occupied West Bank.

The Kuwaiti daily Al Watan said the latest veto was significant because it was the first by President Reagan's administration, and added that calling in future for emergency sessions of the Security Council would be "fruitless."

The Saudi daily Al Jazira said: "Washington means by its veto to tell Syria... go to Israel and negotiate the withdrawal with Begin as Egypt did over Sinai."

Why the U.S. chose to veto U.N. sanctions against Israel

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 22 (Agencies) — A U.S. veto blocked the Security Council resolution calling for voluntary sanctions against Israel on Wednesday as a result of Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights.

Calling the resolution an "aberration, even a perversion of the very purpose which the Security Council is called upon by Chapter Seven of the U.N. Charter to perform," U.S. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick cast the lone negative vote in balloting that brought nine yes votes and five abstentions.

The council's role should be a constructive one, Mrs. Kirkpatrick said, one that prevents aggravating the situation. "Far from preventing aggravation, it would become a source of aggravation. Indeed, it has already succeeded in exacerbating the terribly difficult problems of the Middle East by dividing people whose cooperation is needed to solve problems by sowing suspicion and feeding hostilities."

The United States, she said, has tried hard to be fair and reasonable in facing the situation in the Golan Heights, by refusing to be drawn into "vicious exchanges" or be distracted from seeking a real solution that will ease the Middle East situation.

The resolution, sponsored by Jordan, condemned Israel for failing to comply with a previous council resolution and would have rescinded Israel's application of Israeli law in the occupied Golan Heights.

It also called upon all states to "consider applying concrete and effective measures in order to nullify the Israeli annexation of the Syrian Golan Heights and to refrain from providing any assistance or aid to and cooperating with Israel, in all fields, in order to deter Israel in its policies and practices of annexation..."

The final proposal was milder than the original Arab draft calling for mandatory military sanctions and the end of economic, financial and technical assistance. The initial draft was revised when it failed to get the support of a majority of the council members.

The United States, Mrs. Kirkpatrick said, will continue to search for constructive means to achieve peace for Israel and its neighbours. The place to start is with Security Council Resolutions 242, 338 and 497, she said.

NATIONAL

Local surgery team performs daring operation

By Josephine Mushahwar
Special to the Jordan Times

TO MANY people, a skin graft is simply the removal of a very thin layer of skin from one part of the body and attaching it to another part.

This is true in some cases. In the case of Mohammad Al Khalidi, whose hands were severely mutilated in a gas explosion, the skin graft was a complex and time-consuming procedure.

Mohammad, 13, was admitted to the King Hussein Medical Centre (KHMC) last year for reconstructive surgery. A team of plastic surgeons consisting of Dr. Ghath Shubailat, Dr. Maghnam Shahateet, Dr. Adel Haddad and their anaesthetist, Dr. Mahmoud Keilani, worked for three months

on end to gain the satisfactory results.

The damage to the right hand was that parts of the skin and tissue were burnt and dead. The graft was taken from the patient's lower abdomen, and together with the fat, tissue and blood vessels, placed on the hand.

The left hand however, was completely disfigured. The fingers were partially amputated by the explosion and the skin and tissue were seriously burnt. Microvascular surgery was performed to connect the blood vessels of the skin graft, also taken from the abdomen, to the hand.

Dr. Shubailat, who led the team, explained the different processes used for both hands. "We cut a flap of skin from the abdomen, but left one end attached,

which contained the major artery and vein," he said. "We then placed the right hand under the flap and it remained so for almost four weeks." This was done almost a year ago.

Dr. Shubailat explained that the flap was left attached in order to secure sufficient blood supply from the major vessels of the abdomen to the hand. "When the tissues had developed, the blood circulation was normal and the red blood cells were sufficient in the patient's hand, we disconnected the flap and attached it completely to the hand," he told the Jordan Times.

The left hand however, required microvascular surgery. This meant operating for 10 hours under a microscope in order to connect the minute blood vessels of the unattached abdominal skin to the hand. This operation was performed in December, 1981, after the patient was released from the KHMC and returned for treatment of the left hand. "Anastomosis is the term used for connecting blood vessels," Dr. Shubailat said, "and a microscope is definitely needed because the diameters of the vessels range from 0.8 millimetres to two millimetres."

Once the vessels and living tissue were connected, an adequate blood supply reached the hand and new blood cells were formed. "We removed the dead tissue and skin before the operation," he said.

Dr. Shubailat said the greatest

risk in such operations was the failure in technique or rather, anastomosis. "If the vessels are not securely connected, there is the danger of blood clots," he said.

Infections may be overcome because of the presence of blood, which produces the antibodies for defence against foreign bodies. It is extremely important to maintain blood circulation in the injured area.

This remarkable operation is the first of its kind in the Arab World. "We use the microscope at the KHMC for various operations, but this is the first time the microscope is used in plastic reconstructive surgery," Dr. Shubailat said.

At the KHMC, the microscope is utilised in corneal grafting, brain surgery and middle-ear surgery. In the field of plastic reconstruction, the microscope is fairly new. "We can join vessels with varying diameters, and this eliminates trauma on the patient's part, cuts down on hospital expenses and most of all, saves time," he added.

Dr. Shubailat said that proper treatment of Mohammad Al Khalidi's right hand took months, whereas after the hospital acquired the microscope, the left hand was treated in one single stage.

At the KHMC, Dr. Shubailat has established a successful unit in plastic reconstruction and cosmetic surgery for patients with congenital deformities and head and neck cancer. "Teamwork is

the reason for the unit's success," he remarked. The team members are all fellows of the British Royal College of Surgeons. Dr. Shubailat trained the team of surgeons and nurses in microvascular surgery, emphasising the importance of continuity in this expanding field.

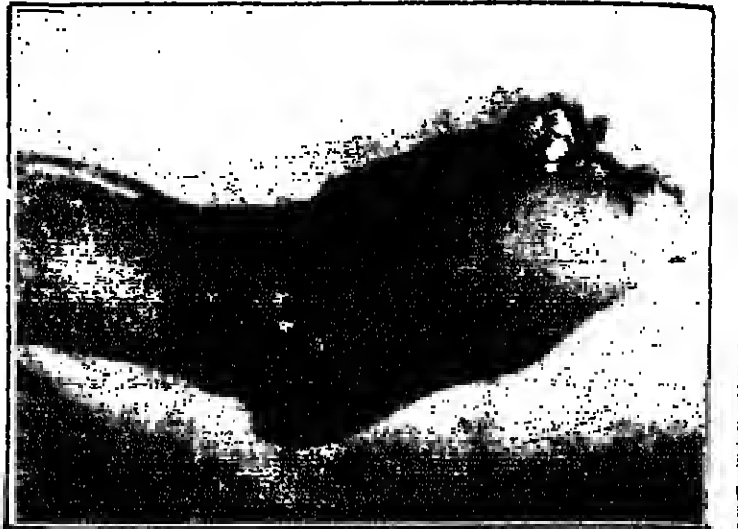
Dr. Maghnam Shahateet who assisted in the operation, was sent to the United States to train in hand surgery.

Dr. Shubailat bought the microscope for his unit after four years of constant planning, attending conferences, training colleagues and experimenting on animals. The microscope necessitated an animal lab where research and training was carried out. Thus the team of plastic surgeons at the KHMC has established a good reputation and gained international recognition.

Mohammad Al Khalidi returned home at the end of December, a fortunate and healthy young man. His accident, like many similar ones, could easily have been avoided if only a little precaution was taken, Dr. Shubailat said.



Mohammad Al Khalidi's damaged right hand is seen (above) before the operation and after the graft was attached to it.



The surgical team pose with their nurses. In the foreground are Dr. Maghnam Shahateet (left) and Dr. Ghath Shubailat. Standing behind the team's nurses are Dr. Adel Haddad (left) and Dr. Mahmoud Keilani.



The "fortunate and healthy" Mohammad Al Khalidi smiles after the operation on both hands in his bed at the King Hussein Medical Centre here.

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NATIONAL



The Muashahat Group performs at the Palace of Culture Friday evening (Photo by Josephine Mushahwar)

At wide-ranging festival

Jordanian musicians show their mettle

By Josephine Mushahwar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Jan. 22 — Jordan's National Culture and Arts Year officially started this evening with a music festival staged at the Palace of Culture by the Jordanian Musicians' Association.

Six Jordanian groups played their music to an applauding audience. The groups were The Survivors, The Roots, The Buds, The Knights, a chamber music group and The Muashahat Group, which belongs to the association.

Jordanian Musicians' Association President Amer Madi told the Jordan Times that the purpose of this festival was to promote the Year of Culture and Arts declared by the Ministry of Culture and Youth, and to give the local groups a chance to share their music with the public.

"Since the association is just recently established, there arose the need for an activity to link

the association with the people and the separate audiences for each of the groups," Mr. Madi said.

The festival is the first step in encouraging musical awareness and talent among Jordan's people. The Jordanian Musicians' Association deals with all types of music: classical, pop, eastern and western.

The programme for the festival was allowed for each group to play for 25 minutes, which made for a varied musical evening of both Jordanian songs and pop selections. The audience was impressed, and the festival was characterised by high spirits.

Mr. Madi said that the association is planning a "music week" later this year, in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Youth. "This week will be held in October to coincide with International Music Day, which is on Oct. 10," he said. The association plans to hold lectures, music lessons and parties during the week.

CBI confab speakers express confidence in Jordanian economy

LONDON, Jan. 22 (J.T.) — A one-day meeting on Tuesday arranged by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) in conjunction with the Committee for Middle East Trade (Comet), the Middle East Association and the recently formed Anglo-Jordanian Society, whose patrons are the crown prince and the Duke of Kent, focused on Jordan's five-year development plan (1981-1985) and the many forms of business opportunities it will provide.

Warm Anglo-Jordanian sentiments were expressed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the Earl of Limerick, chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB).

Lord Limerick opened proceedings with an avowal of confidence in the economic future of Jordan, which "through the hard work and the proper harnessing of the energies of its people has already achieved a remarkable degree of economic prosperity."

Secretary of State for Trade John Biffen was absent from the conference because of government business; but his speech was read for him. He said he saw Jordan as a "valued and trusted friend of Britain." These friendly relations, he said, were exemplified in close trading links, in the bilateral exchange of Jordanian students in Britain and in the many British nationals living in Jordan. Such a friendship, he declared, must be nurtured.

Mr. Biffen maintained that Jordan is one of Britain's best markets in the Middle East. In 1980 Britain exports were worth £100 million, a 15 per cent increase over the previous year, and Lord Limerick agreed that Jordan pro-

vided an attractive base for the development of various Anglo-Jordanian partnerships.

Crown Prince Hassan described the conference as a tangible sign of such cooperation in trade and commerce, and outlined specific areas where more aid and investment were necessary.

The conference continued with a detailed exposition of the Jordanian development plan, with both Jordanian and British representatives discussing different aspects of it. Mr. Sinclair Road, director of Comet and senior representative of firms doing business with Jordan, was among the British speakers at the conference.

Crown Prince returns from London

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan returned to Amman last night at the end of a visit to London. He had met with a number of British politicians to discuss the Middle East question, and Anglo-Jordanian relations.

Prince Hassan also spoke at a Confederation of British Industry meeting on Jordan's five-year plan, and before other British and Arab institutions which invited him to deliver lectures.

Upon his return here, Prince Hassan was met by a number of senior officials and British Ambassador to Jordan Alan Urwick.

Jordan-PLO panel to pay W. Bank gov't employees

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (J.T.) — The joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Supporting the Steadfastness of the Inhabitants of the Occupied Arab Territories has decided to give salaries to government employees under Israeli occupation whose appointment to their posts took place after the 1967 war.

A report in Al Rai newspaper said that the committee is now making preparations for offering these employees regular salaries, in an effort to support their steadfastness in the face of Israel's attempts to empty the occupied Arab territories of their legitimate people.

Alia Fund starts disabled centres

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — The Queen Alia Jordan Welfare Fund (QAJWF) has started implementing a project to build welfare centres in Amman and Irbid for the rehabilitation of handicapped people.

A QAJWF spokesman said the project is designed to secure the social, health, educational and recreational needs of handicapped people aged between five and 18. These young people can have full academic learning from the kindergarten level to the sixth elementary class, followed by vocational training, he said.

Each of the two centres, he added, will accommodate 100 children, and each centre will have a boarding section for 50 children, who cannot travel daily to the centre.

North Yemeni farming fund chief due today

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (J.T.) — The board chairman of North Yemen's agricultural credit bank, Mr. Ahmad Muhammad Thabet, is due here on Saturday at the head of a delegation for a meeting with officials from the Agricultural Credit Corporation.

The delegation's members will acquaint themselves with Jordan's experiment in lending for agricultural projects.

Alarm system contributions mount

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (J.T.) — Contributions totalling JD 721,000 have so far reached the Civil Defence Directorate to help it establish an early accident alarm system, according to Civil Defence Director Khaled Al Tarawneh.

He said that financial contributions came from eight private and public institutions, to which he paid tribute.

A tender has been floated for carrying out the project, which involves a wireless communications system. Bids are due by March 15.

Meanwhile, the Civil Defence Directorate has closed two factories for their failure to provide workers with safety requirements. The closures took place during a tour by inspection teams of a number of factories and companies.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Films

• Le Feu Sacre, a colour film sub-titled in Arabic, at the French Cultural Centre at 7:30 p.m.

• Nordsee 1st Nordsee, a colour film for children sub-titled in English, at the Goethe Institute at 4:30 p.m.



Her Majesty Queen Noor is welcomed at the site of the Prince Hamza Hospital Thursday (Petra photo)

RSCN forest, Prince Hamza Hospital sites of more Arbor Day celebrations

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor today took part in a tree-planting celebration near Na'our organised by the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN).

The celebration took place at a site at which the RSCN intends to establish its second forest. A total of 57 dunums of land there have been planted with 3,000 forest trees by society members.

Accompanying Queen Noor to

the celebration were Prince Ali, Princess Haya and Prince Hamza. Also attending were Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub, RSCN members and a crowd of citizens.

Yesterday, Queen Noor took part in another tree-planting celebration, at the site of the Prince Hamza Hospital. After planting a tree the Queen toured the site. Attending the celebration, organised by the Ministry of Health, were ministers of agriculture and

health Marwan Dudin and Zuhair Malhas, doctors employed by the Ministry of Health and a large crowd of citizens.

The 550-bed Prince Hamza Hospital, estimated to cost JD 25 million, will provide a central blood bank in Jordan as well as a centre for the treatment of alcohol and drug addicts. Adjoining the hospital compound will be a nursing college and a forensic medical centre.



Queen Noor hears an explanation of the Prince Hamza Hospital's facilities from Health Minister Zuhair Malhas Thursday (Petra photo)

Jordan asks that planned youth sports tournament be moved from Amman

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — Jordan has requested that the Arab school sports tournament, originally scheduled for Amman, be held in another Arab city. Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar said here last night.

Speaking upon returning from a meeting in Tunis of Arab ministers of sports, Mr. Abu Nowar said that Jordan had apologised for not being able to host the tournament due to the lack of sports facilities required for such an event. A number of Arab states have failed to honour their financial commitments to Jordan to enable it to construct the sports installations and make available the required facilities, Mr. Abu Nowar said.

He said that technical studies had shown that such facilities and installations would cost JD 6 mil-

U.J. alumni club elects board

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (J.T.) — The University of Jordan Alumni Club elected a new board today at its annual general meeting, held at the headquarters of the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) in Amman.

The three-and-a-half hour meeting resulted in the election of Dr. Duraid Mahasneh as president, Mr. Abdul Hamid Kabariti as vice

president and Mr. Zuhair Zakarya as secretary. In addition to six other members.

During the meeting it was announced that the alumni club has embarked on the first phase of a project to build the club's headquarters, at a cost of JD 140,000. The whole project is expected to cost JD 560,000.

The new nine-member board will serve for one year.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Arab League security chief due

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — The director of the Arab League centre for security studies, Mr. Farouq Murad, is due here on Jan. 27 from Riyadh on a three-day visit to Jordan. He will have talks with Jordanian officials on the agenda of the Arab interior ministers' extraordinary meeting which is due to be held in the Saudi Arabian capital in February.

ALO board to meet in Baghdad

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the Arab Labour Organisation's board meeting which will open in Baghdad on Jan. 25. An announcement here said that Labour Ministry Under-Secretary Tayseer Abdul Jabbar will lead the Jordanian delegation to the four-day meeting. The organisation's projects carried out in 1980 and 1981, and a budget for projects in 1983, will be among the subjects to be discussed, Dr. Abdul Jabbar said. He said that the establishment of an Arab centre for occupational safety will also be discussed.

Team set for agriculture meet

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — The cabinet has formed Jordan's delegation to a conference on the development of industrial agriculture which will open in Baghdad in the middle of next month. Leading the three-man delegation to the six-day meeting will be Agriculture Ministry Under-Secretary Salem Al Lawzi.

Islamic bank chiefs to meet in Turkey

AMMAN, Jan. 22 (Petra) — The Central Bank has received an invitation to take part in an Islamic bank governors meeting which is due to open in Istanbul on May 21. The governors will discuss at their three-day meeting ways of increasing monetary, financial and economic cooperation among Islamic nations, as well as encouraging rich nations' investments in poorer countries.

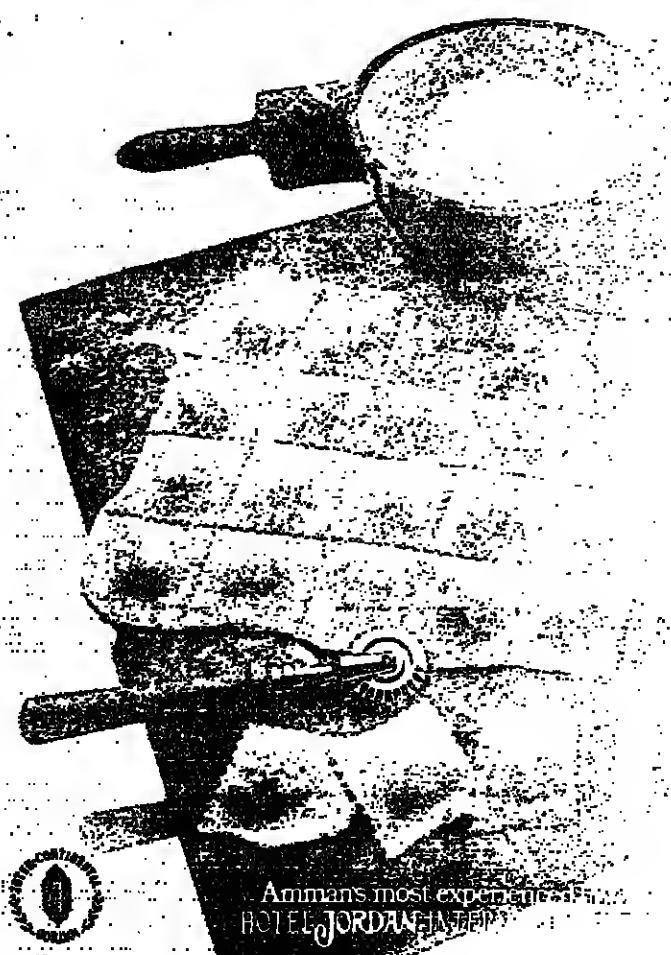
Zarqa chamber to train businessmen

ZARQA, Jan. 22 (Petra) — The Zarqa Chamber of Commerce has decided to hold training courses for Zarqa businessmen on the use of letters of credit and credit facilities, banking affairs, clearance of goods and cost assessment. The board has also decided to hold training course in secretarial duties, accountancy and office work for bank employees and merchants in Zarqa.

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Today's Weather

It will be partly cloudy, with some rain and thunder in the south. Winds will be easterly moderate, freshening at times. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with a chance of thundershowers, southerly moderate winds and rough seas.

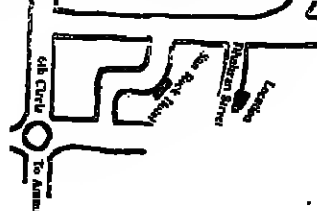
	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	7	15
Aqaba	10	21
Deserts	5	15
Jordan Valley	12	21

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 15, Aqaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Aqaba 30 per cent.

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Woff! Woff!

ONE THING about the United States government -- its consistency more than matches its selective lack of morality. It is, of course, no surprise that the Americans vetoed the United Nations Security Council resolution on voluntary sanctions against Israel because of Israel's annexation of the occupied Syrian Golan Heights. The American government, you will recall, only approves sanctions when sanctions are to be applied against the Soviet Union because of events in Afghanistan and Poland. When the object of sanctions is a little pirate state run by ageing gun-slingers from Eastern Europe and financed by ageing gun-slingers from the Wild West, one is supposed to forego sanctions as inappropriate.

The logic of American policy in this respect is, of course, embarrassingly laughable. Our first sympathies go to those American government officials, at home and abroad, whose job is to explain such things while trying to maintain a straight face. Our second sympathies go to the vast body of American people that has to pay the price for such twisted and bizarre policies. We are not surprised anymore by such American actions, because the United States had long ago demonstrated that it will more or less approve any Israeli action in the Middle East. But we are surprised by the huge capacity of the American people to endure such prolonged and intense political arm-twisting by the pro-Israeli forces of this world. It is, ultimately, the entire nation called America that suffers and pays the price for the irresponsible actions of its elected officials. When the time to pay comes, will we be told by innocent Americans that they did not know what was going on? How much longer will the American people roll over and bark on command?

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Impunity brings profit

AL RA'I: The American veto at the U.N. Security Council has aborted the Jordanian-sponsored resolution which called for the imposition of sanctions against Israel for refusing to heed a previous Council resolution warning it not to carry out its decision of annexing the occupied Syrian Heights.

The American veto clearly means that the United States does not want Israel penalised for her actions, and at the same time means that Washington wants to paralyse the Council's previous resolution.

That resolution, issued last month, contained a warning to Israel that the Council will resort to appropriate measures against it if it does not rescind its decision of annexing the Golan.

The American veto also revealed that Washington's support for the Council's previous resolution was a mere manoeuvre. Therefore it is obvious that the present American administration is following in the steps of America's traditional policies of appeasing the Arabs with mere sugarcoated words and allowing Israel the opportunity to do whatever it wishes while enjoying Washington's support and protection against any penalty or sanction.

In the context of this policy, Washington recently resorted to the theatrical suspension of the U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement in a drive to appease the Arabs momentarily and at the same time to give Israel ample chance to carry out its annexation of the Golan with impunity.

Perhaps this development will open wide the Arabs' eyes and make them better aware of their pitiable state of affairs. The differences among Arab states have no doubt encouraged the U.S. administration to deal with the Arabs in this manner. It is also their divisions and weak position that prompted Britain, France, and Japan to take a negative stand at the Security Council voting.

Therefore we must call again on the Arabs to rise to the level of challenges, build up their intrinsic strength and act firmly in the face of the injustice being done to them.

Threat to peace

AL DUSTOUR: As was expected, the United States has resorted to the veto to kill a moderate U.N. Security Council resolution calling on world nations to take effective measures against Israel in a bid to force it to rescind its decision of annexing the occupied Syrian Golan Heights. The United States has also exercised all forms of pressure on a number of Council members to stop them from supporting the resolution. With this stand Washington has not only thrown all its weight behind the Israeli aggression but also helped towards saving Israel from penalty.

There is no need here for further proof that the American veto demonstrates a bondage between Israel and the United States far stronger than any written document or declared treaty. To date, Washington used 28 vetoes at the Security Council half of which were for the benefit of protecting Israel's actions that had been condemned by the international community.

Washington's stand goes beyond the commitment of defending Israel to the point of condoning and protecting its expansionist aggression against Arab countries and therefore Washington bears the consequence of being accessory to this aggression which threatens world peace and security.

We also believe that the American veto has dealt a setback to Saudi Arabia's efforts which helped to modify the original resolution with the hope of averting an American veto. It forms a clear manifestation of Washington's hostility towards Syria and the Arab states, and tends to shake the world's confidence in the United Nations and its charter and helps paralyse the Security Council's role in safeguarding world peace and security.

The most surprising aspect of the whole affair was the behaviour of the U.S. delegate who went out of her way to accuse nations supporting the resolution of trying to impede the Council's peace efforts. She no doubt was ignoring the fact that Israel's continued crimes were responsible for threatening peace and stability in the world.

Faith and state born in Mecca

One night in the month of Ramadan in the year 609 A.D., Muhammad Ibn Abdullah Ibn Abd Al-Mun'alib Ibn Hashim, the future Prophet Muhammad, had a vision in the cave of Hira near Mecca. A voice said: "I am Gabriel, the angel sent by God to announce to you that you have been appointed by God to communicate His messages. His revelation to humanity."

The first revelation he received was this:
"Recite in the name of your Lord, the Creator,
Who created man from a clot of blood.
Recite! Your Lord is the most bounteous One
Who by the pen has taught,
Taught man things which he did not know."

These words form the first five verses of the 96th chapter of the Qur'an, the Holy Book of Islam, which contains this and the many other revelations Muhammad would receive in the course of the next twenty-three years before his death.

Mecca, the birthplace of Islam, was at the beginning of the seventh century AD a prosperous trading centre with some 10,000 inhabitants. It stood at the crossroads of several major trade routes, which traversed the Arabian peninsula, which itself stood at the confines of the two most powerful empires of that time: The Persian Sassanid empire to the north-east, and the Byzantine empire to the north and west (Syria and Egypt).

Through Mecca passed caravans transporting the most precious commodities of the age: silk from China, spices from India, and perfumes from the Yemen, en route for Byzantium and the rest of Europe. It was a well-organised city-state with a council of ten hereditary oligarchs and with ministries responsible for justice, defence, worship, external relations, consultations with the citizens and other civic affairs. Each of these ministries was held by one of the major clans of the tribe of Quraysh, to which Muhammad belonged.

Mecca was noted for a temple known as the Ka'ba which had become a major centre of pilgrimage. Reputedly built by Adam and restored by Abraham, the Ka'ba was a cubical building, adorned all around with 360 idols. The Virgin Mary and the infant Jesus were among the figures depicted on frescoes inside. A black stone in one corner of the Ka'ba was the object of particular veneration: it marked the spot where the ritual procession around the temple began, and on it pilgrims swore fidelity to God. The annual pilgrimage to the Ka'ba attracted crowds of worshippers from all over the Arabian peninsula.

The overwhelming majority of the people of Mecca, including Muhammad, were illiterate but they were renowned for their eloquence and appreciation of poetry. Indeed, poets from all over the peninsula came there to display

their talents and earn the approval of the Meccans.

Such was the setting to which the message of Islam was first brought by Muhammad.

When he received the first revelation Muhammad was forty years old. An Arab born in Mecca into a family of merchants, he had become the leader of caravans, like his father and grandfather before him. His wife, Khadijah, was the widow of a merchant, and on her behalf he had journeyed to Syria, the Yemen, East Arabia

This is the first part of a series of articles on Islam. The articles are reprinted from an issue of The UNESCO Courier, originally published to commemorate the beginning of the 15th century after Hijra (Muhammad's emigration from Mecca to Medina).

Today Muhammad Hamidullah reviews the

(Bahrain, Oman), and possibly even as far as Abyssinia which had highly developed trading links with pre-Islamic Mecca. As a young man Muhammad had already revealed exceptional qualities which distinguished him from his fellows. In particular he had won a reputation for probity in business which earned him the name of al-Amin (worthy of confidence).

According to historians, Muhammad once bought a young slave named Zaid Ibn Harithah, whom he treated very kindly. Zaid had been captured during a war. After a long search, his father, chief of a big tribe, found his son in Mecca and asked Muhammad to return the boy in exchange for a ransom. The future Prophet replied that he would free the young slave for nothing, provided that the boy willingly agreed to go with his father. Faced with this choice, Zaid announced that he preferred to stay with Muhammad. The latter was deeply moved and immediately set the boy free, took him to the Ka'ba and declared that he had decided to adopt his former slave as his son.

It was around this time that Muhammad became dissatisfied with the worldly life around him and began to retire to spend his days in meditation. His favourite retreat being the cave of Hira. For five successive years he thus went into seclusion during the whole month of Ramadan, which then fell in mid-winter. It was during his fifth annual retreat that he had his first vision of the Archangel Gabriel.

When the vision was over, Muhammad returned home, profoundly shaken, and described his experience to his wife Khadijah. He was in a state of great agitation and feared that the angel might have been the devil to disguise. Khadijah did all she could to comfort him and the next day they both visited her cousin, Waraqa Ibn Nawfal, a blind old Hermit who had converted to Christianity and was versed in religious lore.

As soon as Muhammad had fin-

ished telling his story, Waraqa exclaimed: "If what you say is true, this is similar to the Nomos (Torah) of Moses. If God spares me, I shall defend you when the hour of your persecution comes."

"Shall I be persecuted for having talked of God and his blessings?" Muhammad inquired.

"Yes," said Waraqa, "no prophet has escaped persecution from a part of his people."

The story of Muhammad's vision, spread throughout the city. The first to proclaim their faith in

his message were Khadijah, the devoted Zaid, Muhammad's friend Abu Bakr, and his young cousin Ali whom he had brought up as an adopted son. Others were sceptical, if not openly hostile.

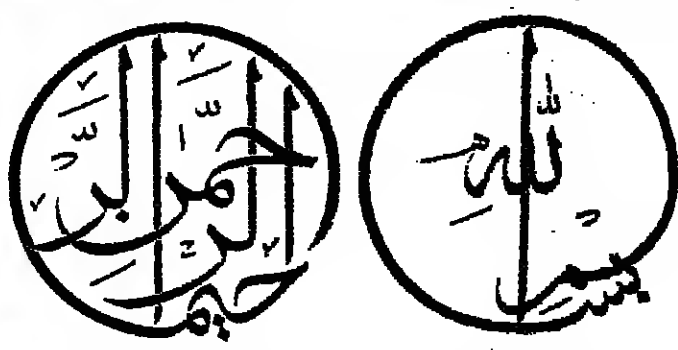
Then three years went by without Gabriel appearing again to the Prophet. Muhammad was on the verge of despair when his aunt, Umm Lahab, taunted him saying: "I am sure that your devil (Gabriel) has abandoned you and that he detests you."

This insult touched the Prophet to the quick. He climbed a nearby mountain, and when he reached the summit Gabriel appeared before him, calmed him and recited to him the words of God. Allah is merely the Arab word for God, used both by Christian and Muslim Arabs in prayer. "By the morning hours and by the night when it is stillest. Your Lord hath not forsaken you nor doth he hate you.... Therefore the orphan oppress not, the beggar drive not away, and of the bounty of your Lord be your discourse." (The Qur'an, NCIII, 1-3 and 9-11). Muhammad immediately grasped the meaning of this message ordering man to believe in God and to be charitable.

The message which Muhammad began to preach to the people of his birthplace had two main doctrines, the unity of God, the resurrection and life after death. The idea of a single omniscient and omnipresent God, to which everyone will one day have to give an account of himself, conflicted with the idolatrous beliefs and practices of the Meccans. At first they were amused by Muhammad's teachings. Then they began to pour scorn on him. Finally they unleashed a wave of persecution against the Prophet and the small group of converts who had embraced the new religion. When it became intolerable, Muhammad advised his new companions to seek refuge in Abyssinia where a Christian king gave them asylum and protection. When the Meccans furiously sent a delegation to demand the extradition of the Muslim refugees, the Abyssinian

1400 years of Islam

In the name of God the Compassionate, the Merciful



king turned down their request.

The Meccan delegation thus returned home frustrated, and as a result the persecution of those Muslims who had remained in Mecca was stepped up.

Eventually the pagan Meccans

historical developments that surrounded the birth of Islam as a religion and as a state.

Other articles, dealing with Islamic thought and civilization, and with their effect on science and architecture will appear in the Jordan Times on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

decided to proclaim a boycott of the Prophet and his clan. All commercial transactions, including the sale of food, were forbidden, and many Muslims died during the boycott.

He now conceived the idea of making contact with the foreigners who came to Mecca each year on the annual pilgrimage to the Ka'ba. After many vain efforts with contingents from different tribes, a small group of people from Yathrib, later to be known as Madinat al-Nabi, "the city of the Prophet", or simply Medina, "the city" rallied to his cause and agreed to preach the message in their town. The following year twelve people from Medina came to Mecca at the time of the pilgrimage and declared their conversion to Islam. When they returned home they were accompanied by a missionary from Mecca who had been instructed by the prophet to preach Islam in Medina.

The missionary was so successful that the next year dozens of converts came to Mecca from Medina and invited the Prophet and all persecuted Muslims to emigrate to their town. Muhammad accepted, but first he asked the Muslims in Mecca to go to Medina in small groups because if they migrated en masse the people of Mecca would probably molest them. So secretly, in small groups, they went.

As more and more Muslims left Mecca, the Meccans became afraid that if Muhammad too found refuge elsewhere he would eventually return with his hosts and attack his native city. And so they decided to assassinate him. When news of the plot reached Muhammad, he went to his friend Abu Bakr and they both decided to leave Mecca under cover of darkness and go to Medina. Abu Bakr engaged a man to bring two camels to their hiding place and to guide them by unfrequented routes. After many adventures they arrived safely in Medina, to the joy of the Muslims who were already there.

security and progress which permitted the establishment of an Islamic State.

The first problem facing him was that of the refugees. He suggested that each wealthy Medina family should fraternise with a family of Meccan refugees: the two families should work together, eat together, and live together as a single family. The Medina Muslims agreed and in this way the problem of the refugees was soon solved.

The next problem was that of security. On the Prophet's arrival, there was a political vacuum in Medina, which consisted merely of a number of warring clans who recognised no ruler and no form of state authority. Muhammad called together representatives of all the population -- Muslims, idolatrous Arabs, Jews and Christians -- and proposed the establishment of a city-state whose strength would deter anyone who might think of attacking it. The proposal was accepted, and Muhammad was himself selected as head of the new state.

As head of state his first measure was to draw up a constitution. The text, which has survived to the present day, is the world's first known example of a written constitution. It defines the rights and duties of the head of state and his subjects, and makes provisions for defence, justice, social insurance and other needs. The hallmark of

the constitution is tolerance in the widest sense. Under it even Muslim and non-Muslim alike enjoy not only liberty of conscience but also liberty of law and justice: Muslim law was applied to non-Muslims neither in civil nor in criminal cases.

Muhammad next began to organise the security of the Muslim state by making a series of defensive alliances with the tribes which lived around Medina. Strengthened by these alliances, he forbade the Meccan caravans travelling to Syria, Egypt or Iraq to cross Islamic territory. When the Meccans tried to force their way through they found their way blocked by bands of Muslims, and sometimes ten times faster than their own forces. The great victory at the battle of Badr (year 2 of the Hijra) was won, for example, by some 300 Muslims pitted against some 950 pagans.

As the years went by, Mecca began to show signs of economic exhaustion. Muhammad generously offered a truce but when this was violated by the Meccans he occupied their city without a blow being struck. His first decision was to proclaim a general amnesty which affected the Meccans as profoundly as that most of the were converted to Islam overnight.

Two years later he again went to Mecca to perform the pilgrimage of the House of God, that is, the final element of the edifice of Islam. His mission on earth had been accomplished three months later he breathed his last.

Before he died he had summed up the basic duties of Islam as: entrance of the confession of faith ("There is no God but Allah, Muhammad is the Messenger of God"); saying daily prayers to God; paying tax (Zakat); the pilgrimage to Mecca; and fasting during the month of Ramadan. These five pillars of faith, where material and spiritual mingle in a single balanced whole, remain today the foundations of Islam.

By Muhammad Hamidullah, an Islamologist from Hyderabad (India), currently an honorary research officer at the French National Centre of Scientific Research in Paris. He taught for 25 years at the University of Istanbul and for shorter periods at the Universities of Ankara, and Erzurum (Turkey) and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia). Among his published works are 'Le Prophete de l'Islam' (Paris 1950 and 1980), 'Muslim Conduct of State' (Lahore, 1977), and a translation of the Qur'an into French (Beirut, 1980, tenth edition).

In the article above quotations from the Qur'an are in the author's own translation.

Qur'an, Holy Book of Muslims

The Qur'an (the Koran) is the Holy Book of the Muslims. In Arabic *Qur'an* means "reading" or "recitation". It contains all the revelation made by God through the archangel Gabriel to Muhammad over about the last twenty years of his life.

Muhammad, for Muslims the last of the prophets and the chosen Messenger of God, described how these revelations were made in the following terms:

"They happen in different ways: sometimes Gabriel takes the form of a man who speaks to me as a man speaks, sometimes he is another kind of being with wings, and I remember all that he says. At other times, it seems as if a bell was ringing in my ears -- and that is the most terrible ordeal -- and when this state of ecstasy fades I remember everything perfectly as if it were engraved on my memory."

The Qur'an is written in Arabic and is divided into 114 *Surahs* or chapters, sub-divided into verses. They are of unequal length and are arranged not chronologically, but in order of decreasing length, except in the case of the first *Surah* which is entitled *Al-Fatiha* (the Exordium) and which has only seven verses (see, above). It is considered the epitome of the Holy Book and is the only part of the Qur'an that must be recited at every prayer.

For Muslims, the Qur'an is a guide through the whole of human life, temporal as well as spiritual, individual as well as collective. It is for all men, without distinction, in all countries and for all time. Since, according to the Holy Book, there will be no further revelation.

The sacred text does not follow a chronological order and the messages dictated to the Prophet at Mecca, before the *Hijra*, are interspersed with those received at Medina.

The Meccan *Surahs* which make up about one third of the Qur'an, were addressed to a hostile and pagan community and constitute a kind of ethical code that teaches charity, perseverance and purity. They also have a marked eschatological character, reminding the believers that the Last Judgement awaits them.

The Medina *Surahs*, in the name of God the Compassionate the Merciful Praise be to God, Lord of the Creation,

The Compassionate, the Merciful King of the Last Judgement You alone we worship,

which constitute about two thirds of the Qur'an are interspersed with legal prescriptions necessary to the communal life of the new society established in Medina.

The revelations continued to occur, until the Prophet's death in the eleventh year of the *Hijra* (632 A.D.).

The fragments of the Qur'an were put together under the direction of the Prophet himself. After each revelation, he dictated the words received from Gabriel to one of his literate companions, indicating the exact place this new element was to occupy in the

and to You alone we pray for help Guide us to the straight path

The path of those whom you have favoured, not of those who have incurred Your wrath, nor of those who have gone astray.

complete work. Muhammad chose a thematic rather than a chronological arrangement; apart from some very long texts in which several problems are discussed, the chapters are generally made up of revelations from different periods but dealing with the same subject. This gives the Book a logical structure.

The work of transcription lasted for the whole of the Prophet's ministry. After his death, the community was not allowed to change the long sequence of Qur'anic revelations either by

addition or suppression. The task of establishing a complete and definitive version of the Qur'an in a single book developed upon the Prophet's successors. Since paper was unknown at that time to the inhabitants of the Arabian peninsula, the first Muslims in Mecca and later in Medina recorded the revelations on crude and perishable materials -- pieces of leather, wooden tablets, the shoulder-blades of camels, date fibre, soft stone, etc. The texts thus recorded were often fragmentary and showed certain divergencies.

The text of the Qur'an was also preserved by the *Hafiz*: believers who had learned it by heart from the mouth of the Prophet. After his death many of them perished during the wars of apostasy, which broke out when certain Muslims rejected Islam and refused to pay the compulsory alms, or *zakaat*. In order to safeguard the Qur'an and complete the verification of its text by those *hafiz* who were still alive, the first Caliph, Abu Bakr, on the advice of Umar (who was later to succeed

him), commanded that the various fragments be assembled into a single work. It is said that Umar himself wrote down the sacred text in one volume. But it was the third Caliph, Uthman, who reigned from 644 to 656 AD, who drew up the complete and official version of the Qur'an.

The Qur'an established not only a religion but also a language -- Arabic.

In Muhammad's time a large number of Semitic dialects were spoken in the Arabian peninsula. The divine revelation was made in the idiom of the powerful Quraysh tribe and thus the Arabic language became a vehicle of civilisation for hundreds of millions of people. The first known book in Arabic, the Qur'an, is an inspired text of great formal perfection. It is written in prose although some of its verses rhyme.

Although it has been translated into nearly all languages, Muslims throughout the world must recite in their prayers a few verses from the Qur'an in the original Arabic.

ECONOMY

U.S. inflation rate falls to 8.9%

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22 (R) — Inflation in the United States last year fell to its lowest level since 1977, with consumer prices rising only 8.9 per cent, the government said today.

The Labour Department said consumer prices rose by a modest 0.4 per cent in December compared with 0.5 per cent in November.

The inflation rate for 1981 was a significant drop from the 12.4 per cent in 1980 and the best performance since U.S. inflation was 6.8 per cent in 1977.

"All major categories of consumer spending, except medical care, registered smaller increases in 1981 than in 1980," the department said.

It added that if consumer prices

continued to rise at December's pace, they would be only 5.2 per cent higher a year from now.

President Reagan was pointed with pride to the progress his administration has made in bringing down inflation. But critics say much of the improvement came as a result of the current recession, which has sent the unemployment rate soaring to 8.9 per cent.

Some private economists also fear that the recent gains achieved on the inflation front may be lost next summer when a 10 per cent income tax cut takes effect and the economy begins to heat up.

Much of the progress made on inflation occurred during the winter months of 1981. Between October and December, consumer prices rose only 5.3 per cent after a 13.5 per cent rise in the

preceding three months.

The strongest contributor to the improved inflation figures was food, which rose only 4.3 per cent last year. Energy prices, particularly petrol, also behaved considerably better than they had in recent years.

But while inflation has been easing, the economy as a whole has slumped into a serious recession. Earlier this week the government announced that the economy contracted at a steep 5.2 per cent annual rate during the final quarter of 1981.

At the same time, unemployment has risen to within a fraction of its post-World-War-Two high of nine per cent and is expected to climb even higher.

How Japan 'cascades' through Western markets

By Christopher Lorenz

The competitive strategy of Japanese companies is much more consistent and systematic than many threatened western companies realise. In consumer electronics, for instance, Japan's invasion has not been achieved in a series of unrelated market segments, as some Western analysts maintain, but through a complementary series of steps, from the transistor radio of 30 years ago to today's videotape player.

The only effective way for Western companies to defend themselves against future attack — in the domestic appliance markets, for example — is to borrow or trump the Japanese approach, according to Marc Particelli, a vice-president of Booz Allen & Hamilton, the management consultancy. "Your industry may be next" to come under attack, he warns.

In a most revealing — and alarming — article in a recent edition of Booz Allen's journal Outlook, Particelli cites Black and Decker as one Western company that has managed to take advantage of many of the same techniques that have made the Japanese so successful.

Its formidable position as leader in virtually every market segment it has entered is due mainly to its "corporate religion" of productivity through innovation, said Particelli.

Not only does it put unusual emphasis on product innovation and responsiveness to the consumer, but it follows a rigorous policy of regular reductions in all elements of cost. Each Black and Decker product is expected to show cost reductions of at least 4 per cent a year without any sacrifice in quality or performance, according to Particelli. As a result, its product costs are the lowest in the industry.

Tracing Japan's gradual penetration and dominance of the U.S. consumer electronics market, Particelli describes what he calls a "cascading pattern" beginning with carefully selected small segments and gradually moving across the entire market. This applies both within broad product markets (transistor radios for example) and within consumer electronics as a whole.

Examining this process in detail, Particelli concludes that a number of critical success factors

underpin Japanese strategy. They include:

Initial penetration of well-defined target segments: "As a rule, the Japanese start with a large business in their highly protected home market, enter peripheral markets, and then take dead aim at U.S. and European markets. Their initial U.S. penetration is always at an extremely well-defined target segment, with a limited line — typically at the low end of the product category."

"They pick off volume channels where economical distribution can be achieved, with little concern for whether they market private label or branded products. Usually they rely on retail push and private labels rather than on investments in marketing for brand 'pull'."

Volume stimulation and segment domination: "Their initial base secured, the Japanese then proceed to stimulate volume and dominate that particular segment. This achieved, they move on to another segment and repeat the process, always concentrating on providing consumers with low price and extremely high quality, driving continually for price and cost (reduction) to increase consumer support and stimulate growth."

Resource application: product and cost vs. innovation: "The Japanese support their emphasis on value in price, benefits and quality by applying resources in a way that differs dramatically from their U.S. and European competitors. In general, the early emphasis in resource allocation by U.S. manufacturers is on innovation: the invention of new products and applications, and product improvements. As a market begins to mature, emphasis is placed on market stimulation through marketing and sales."

"Only at the mature stage does the American manufacturer begin to focus a disproportionate share

of his resources on cost (reduction)."

"Japanese firms take a different approach. At about the same time that U.S. manufacturers begin to diminish their product innovations, Japanese competitors enter the market with a significant emphasis on innovation, in order to differentiate product benefits and design for low cost. This heavy emphasis on innovation falls off rapidly; almost immediately the level of resources devoted to cost (reduction) escalates and remains high."

Establishing consumer value and building market presence: "As a key element in their strategy, the Japanese have consistently relied on private brands, letting them assume marketing risks and then building their own brand presence from this secure private label base."

"By taking this approach, they have established a strong consumer franchise: a majority of buyers worldwide now consider Japanese products to be superior in quality and value to American and European-made ones."

Cost cutting on all fronts: "In order to achieve both low retail price and superior retailer margins, the Japanese need to deliver their product at a low wholesale price. To do this, they put strong emphasis on economies in all major cost areas: manufacturing, distribution, marketing. This emphasis on all costs, from production through consumer purchase, is another key element in Japanese strategy that distinguishes it from that of American and European firms."

Implementation in a global market place: "Japan has developed the ability to look at the entire world as a potential marketplace. Starting from the home base, it moves on to a global level in order to realise sufficient economies of scale."

Particelli focuses particularly on the Japanese tendency to enter Western markets in a concentrated geographic area and in a segment which is small and frequently unimportant to domestic companies.

This provides the basic knowledge, people, systems, and customers from which to build broad acceptance and capture market share. These early steps should be a warning signal for domestic companies, he says.

This overall pattern is already being repeated in the U.S. domestic appliance market, according to Particelli. Like other industries

successfully penetrated by the Japanese, it is large, apparently mature and slow-moving, and is dominated by a few large, seemingly effective competitors with "huge" investments in ageing plant and equipment.

These factors have in general prompted the leading U.S. companies to cut investment and product innovation — to treat their appliance businesses as "cash cows" — to use the fashionable term.

But Particelli points out that this is occurring at a time when there are significant changes in products, efficiency, reliability and costs on the horizon. As American brands move towards homogeneity, consumers are demanding new and different product features, and new market segments are emerging such as microwave ovens.

A number of Japanese app-

liance companies are already penetrating the U.S. market, initially in countertop microwave areas and refrigerators. The next step will probably be expansion into the full refrigerator product line, he warns, followed by moves into washing machines and cookers.

"At first, Japanese firms will focus on retail distribution rather than building markets and will pursue private label arrangements as hard or harder than branded business. They will select volume channels because they can be served at low cost, and they will be very flexible in their mix of imports, local assembly, local manufacture and world sourcing of components. The action will not occur rapidly; the Japanese will creep into this market and it may take them 20 years to make major inroads."

— Financial Times news service

EEC unemployment tops 10m

BRUSSELS, Jan. 22 (R) — The number of people out of work in the European Economic Community (EEC) topped 10 million for the first time at the end of last year, the EEC statistics office said today.

The jobless total was nearly 10.3 million in the 10 member nations at the end of December, representing nine per cent of the community's workforce.

EEC unemployment rose by 2.8 per cent in December. Aside from Greece, where seasonal distortions led to a nominal 33.5 per cent increase during the month, West Germany showed the steepest rise at over 14 per cent, followed by the Netherlands, where the jobless queues lengthened by

seven per cent.

"These increases went way beyond the normal seasonal fluctuations and confirmed the significant deterioration in the labour market which had been observed for months, the office said in its monthly bulletin."

In France, Italy and Britain, on the other hand, unemployment was relatively stable, it said.

Rising unemployment has become a major political problem in most EEC countries.

West Germany is working on a job-creation programme that will involve higher government spending, while the socialist government in France is cutting the work week from 40 hours to 39 on February 1 to help create jobs.

Most economists predict only a slow recovery from recession in Europe this year as governments continue to keep a tight hand on their spending in order to prevent a resurgence of inflation.

The present recession in the United States is also likely to hold down growth in European countries that export to the American market.

A special meeting of EEC ministers may be held again this year to consider the jobs problem, the President of the EEC Council of Ministers Leo Tindemans of Belgium said yesterday.

A similar meeting between economic, finance and social affairs ministers last year produced few results.

Bundestag approves \$105b budget

BONN, Jan. 22 (R) — The West German Bundestag (lower house) today approved the 1982 federal budget after four months of tough inter-party bargaining on spending that at one stage threatened to split the ruling coalition.

It includes measures to promote employment in the depressed construction and steel industries, and provides for government spending to rise 3.2 per cent to 240.5 billion marks (\$105 billion) this year.

Finance Minister Hans Matthöfer, in his closing speech, delivered a sturdy defence of the left-liberal government's eco-

nomic policy and said its top priority remained the fight against unemployment.

"One thing is certain — we cannot and will not stand by and watch mass unemployment develop in West Germany," he said. The jobless total jumped to 1.7 million last month, or 7.3 per cent of the labour force, and is expected to pass two million soon.

Mr. Matthöfer told parliament domestic interest rates would have to fall substantially further if long-term jobs were to be created, but he welcomed yesterday's half-point cut in the central bank's

main lending rate to 10 per cent. New net borrowing is projected to fall to 26.5 billion marks (\$11.7 billion) in 1982 from some 38 billion marks (\$17 billion) last year.

The protracted debate on the budget, which received its first reading in parliament last September, caused severe strains late last year within the left-liberal coalition.

The majority Social Democrats argued for higher state spending while the Liberal Free Democrats, supported by the opposition conservatives, were anxious to restrict government borrowing and hold down taxes.

LONDON EXCHANGE

RATES

LONDON, Jan. 22 (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today.

One sterling	1.8692/1.8702	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1928/31	Canadian dollars
	2.3015/25	West German marks
	2.5210/40	Dutch guilders
	1.8480/1.8500	Swiss francs
	39.17/20	Belgian francs
	5.8550/80	French francs
	1234.60/1235.10	Italian lire
	226.35/50	Japanese yen
	5.6230/50	Swedish crowns
	5.8660/80	Norwegian crowns
	7.3335/60	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	377.75/378.25	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, Jan. 22 (R) — The market closed firm but below morning highs after an extremely active session, dealers said. At 1500 the F.T. index was up 5.2 to 564.3.

Leading U.K. banks lowered their base lending rates to 14 per cent from 14½ per cent, rather sooner than the market had been expecting, but this failed to deter some profit takers after the large gains posted over the week, dealers added.

Plessey remained 8p higher and gains of 5p or 6p were posted against BOC, Glaxo, Turner and Newall and Vickers. Gold shares edged higher while North Americans also showed a high tendency.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Saudi riyal	99.7/101
Lebanese pound	71.7/73
Syrian pound	57.6/58.2
Iraqi dinar	621/628
Kuwaiti dinar	1202/1206.1
Egyptian pound	345.6/346.3
Omani rial	93.5/93.6
U.A.E. dirham	134.7/135.3
Omani rial	93.5/93.6
U.S. dollar	340.3/42
U.K. sterling	641.2/645
W. German mark	147.6/148.5
Swiss franc	183.3/184.2
French franc	58.58/3
Italian lire	(for every 100)
Japanese yen	130.8/131.7
Dutch guilder	134.7/135.3
Belgian franc	86.7/87.2
Swedish crown	60.3/60.7

PRAYER TIMES

Fajr	5:13
Sunrise	6:35
Dhuhr	11:47
'Asr	3:40
Maghreb	5:01
'Isha	6:23

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Firstaid, fire, police	199
Fire headquarters	22999
Cablegram or telegram	18
Telephone:	
Information	12
Jordan and Middle East trunk calls	10
Overseas radio and satellite calls	17
Telephone maintenance and repair service	11

MARKET PRICES

Tomatoes	200	120	Local Potatoes	120	81
Eggplant (small)	130	100	Brnad Beans	400	350
Eggplant (large)	120	90	Apples (Golden)	250	200
Potatoes (imported)	120	90	Apples (Double Red)	250	200
Potatoes (local)	140	100	Apples (Starken)	250	189
Marrow (small)	160	120	Oranges (Abu surra)	140	100
Marrow (large)	100	80	Oranges (Shamouti)	180	120
Cucumber (small)	400	300	Oranges (local)	100	70
Cucumber (large)	280	250	Oranges (French)	130	100
Hot Green Pepper	230	150	Cauliflowers	90	70
Sweet Pepper	120	100	Tangerine	200	160
Cabbage	120	100	Bonani	180	140
Onions (dry)	170	140	Carrot	160	120
Green onions	350	300	Turpils	150	120
Garlic	70	40	Chestnut	420	350
Spinach	330	250	Grapefruit	90	70
Coconut (piece)	330	250	Beet	150	120
Beans	350	300	Lettuce (a head)	60	40
Bananas	260	200	Mandarin oranges	200	150
Bananas (Mukammur)	225	180			

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

5:30	Koran
5:50	Cartoons
6:15	Rainbow
6:30	Buck Rogers
7:20	Local Programme
7:30	Local Programme on Agriculture

8:00	News in Arabic
8:30	Arabic Series
9:30	Local Programme (Documentary)
10:10	Arabic Play
11:30	News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00	French Programme
7:00	News in French
7:45	Varieties
8:30	News in Arabic
8:55	Comedy: M.A.S.H.
9:30	Saturday Variety Show
10:00	News in English
10:15	Feature Film: "Psycho"

JORDAN RADIO

855 KHZ, AM & 99 MHz, FM

7:00	Sign on
7:30	Morning Show
7:45	News Bulletin
7:50	Morning Show
8:00	News Summary
8:30	Eternal Jerusalem
11:00	Sign off
12:00	News Headlines
12:30	Pop Session
13:00	News Summary
13:30	Radiotheque
14:00	News Bulletin
14:10	Instrumentals
14:30	Over a Cup of Tea
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites

17:00 Melody Time

17:30	In Concert
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Play of the Week
19:00	News
19:30	Top Twenty
20:30	Classical Music
21:00	Old Favourites
22:00	Close down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT

04:00	Newsdesk
04:30	Backtracking
04:45	Financial News
04:55	Reflections
05:00	World News
05:15	British Press Review
05:30	Newsdesk
05:40	Book Choice
05:45	The World Today
06:00	Newsdesk
06:30	Terry Wogan's Album Time
07:00	World News
07:15	From the Weeklies
07:30	The French Miniature
07:45	Network U.K.
08:00	World News
08:15	Peebles' Choice
08:30	Rhythm 'n' Roots
09:00	World News
09:15	The World Today
09:30	Financial News
09:45	Look Ahead
09:55	Science in Action
10:15	About Britain
10:30	A Murder of Quality
11:00	World News
11:15	News about Britain
11:30	New Ideas
11:45	The Week in Wales
12:00	Meridian
12:30	Radio Newsreel
12:45	Anything Goes
12:55	Sports Round-Up
13:00	World News
13:15	Commentary
13:30	Golden Treasury
13:45	A Touch of Genius
14:15	1 Spy Fiction
14:30	Rhythm 'n' Roots
15:00	Radio Newsreel
15:15	Saturday Special
16:00	World News
16:15	Commentary
16:30	Saturday Special
17:00	News Summary
17:15	Sports Round-Up
17:30	World News
17:45	News about Britain
18:00	Radio Newsreel
18:15	Radio Newsreel
18:30	Play of the Week
19:00	In Praise of Love
19:30	Terry Wogan's Album Time
20:00	World News
20:15	Goods Books

20:30 The Ages of Man

21:15 Twentieth Century Folk
21:30 People and Politics
22:00 World News
22:30 New Ideas
22:40 Reflections
22:45 Sports Round-up
23:00 World News
23:05 Commentary
23:15 Letterbox
23:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT

03:30 The Breakfast Show: news on the hour and 28 min. after each hour
17:00 Weekend 18:00 Special English: news/words and their stories, feature, short stories 18:30 New York, New York 19:00 News and This Week 19:30 Press Conference USA 20:00 Special English: news/words and their stories 20:15 Music USA (Jazz) 21:00 Weekend

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:

8:00	Cairo (EA)
8:55	Aqaba
9:00	Cairo
9:30	Jeddah
9:40	Dhahran
9:45	Karachi, Dubai
9:50	Kuwait
10:00	Doha, Bahrain
10:10	Beirut
10:15	Abu Dhabi
11:05	Abu Dhabi (Swissair)
11:05	Riyadh (Saudi)
17:00	Cairo
17:45	Copenhagen, Athens
17:45	New York, Vienna
18:00	Cairo
18:05	London (BA)
18:50	Copenhagen, Athens (SAS)
20:20	Cairo (EA)
20:30	Beirut (MEA)
20:30	Frankfurt
21:00	Cairo (EA)
01:00	Baghdad
02:00	Baghdad

DEPARTURES:

3:00 Cairo

6:15 Frankfurt (LH)

SPORTS

S. African Grand Prix goes ahead

Drivers end one-day strike

KYALAMI, South Africa, Jan. 22 (R) — The world's top Formula One drivers today ended a one-day strike over a contract dispute less than two hours before it would have been too late to save tomorrow's South African Grand Prix.

The striking drivers emerged this morning from a barricaded Johannesburg hotel room where they had spent the night of makeshift beds, and two-time former world champion Niki Lauda of Austria announced: "It's all over. We've got what we wanted."

The drivers bedded down last night after a bizarre day which included a bus chase and threats of life bans and law suits. This followed their presentation of a united front to team managers and the sport's international controlling body, FISA.

The drivers had demanded changes in a new so-called "super licence" introduced only just before the South African Grand Prix, which they said restricted their right to negotiate contracts.

No details of the settlement were released as the drivers rushed to the track this morning to start practising. But track sources indicated they had gained only their minimum demand from FISA president Jean-Marie Balestre — that the clauses would be reconsidered at a later date.

Drivers arrived at the track and began unofficial practice about an hour before midday, the latest

time they and officials said would allow sufficient practice for the race to go on.

But the dispute and the interrupted night's sleep took its toll. World champion Nelson Piquet of Brazil did not drive his Brabham in unofficial practice after team manager Bernie Ecclestone expressed concern over his fitness.

Piquet, examined by a doctor, said afterwards he felt fine and would take part in official timed practice later.

Arrows driver Patrick Tambay of France arrived at the track and announced he was quitting Formula One driving because of its state of disarray. The Arrows team said he would be replaced by Briton Brian Hootoo.

Tambay said he was considering offers from Canam and Formula Indy Racing in North America.

South American driver Roberto Guerrero of Ensign was withdrawn by his team, which said in a statement they did not believe he had had sufficient sleep to drive a Formula One car under such conditions and at such speed.

But most of the others returned to the track and Canada's Gilles Villeneuve took his Ferrari around the 4.1 kms circuit in one of the fastest early times of one minute 7.7 seconds, an average speed of 218 kph.

Kyalami's 2,000-metre altitude favours the turbo-powered Ferrari, Brabham and Renault teams and they must be considered fav-

ourites with their superior acceleration and greater overall speed in tomorrow's 77-lap race — opening event of the 1982 season.

In earlier unofficial practice, Piquet took his Brabham round the course in one minute 6.27 seconds, eight seconds better than the official lap record.

The dispute was the second in successive years to plague the Kyalami Grand Prix, one of the few genuine world-class events staged in South Africa because of boycotts over this country's racial separation policies.

A crowd of more than 100,000 is expected at this track outside Johannesburg tomorrow.

China reiterates plans to play in Taiwan softball tournament

PEKING, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — China plans to enter a sports competition in Taiwan for the first time in 32 years by sending a team to a women's softball tournament this summer, a spokesman reiterated today.

If a Chinese team goes to Taiwan, it would be the first known formal visit to that island of 18 million people by a mainland Chinese delegation since the 1949 communist takeover of the mainland.

But the spokesman for the All-China Sports Federation said China has not yet received an invitation from Taiwan to the fifth World Women's Softball Championships.

In Taipei, softball officials denied reports that China already had been invited. They said no invitations had been sent yet.

In December, Ho Ming-Chang, president of the Taipei-Chinese Softball Association, said all members of the International Softball Federation (ISF) would be invited in line with ISF regulations.

Peking and Taipei both are members, and federation officials have said the tournament could be moved if Taipei refuses to invite Peking.

Teams from Taiwan and China

Walter Rohrl wins 50th Monte Carlo Rally

MONTE CARLO, Jan. 22 (R) — West German Walter Rohrl, driving an Opel Ascona 400, carried off the 50th Monte Carlo rally today, comfortably beating Finland's Hannu Mikkola.

Rohrl, 53, led the competition with aggressive driving from the second stage, keeping a narrow but steady lead over Mikkola in his four-wheel drive Audi Quattro.

He lost valuable time at the end of the 1,470 kilometre common stage yesterday when he chose studded tyres for the Alpine stretches while other drivers opted for higher-performance tyres better suited to the dry surface. Rohrl finished the stage only one minute 45 seconds ahead of Mikkola.

The Finn won eight of the common stage trial sections and threatened to put up a hard fight in the 210 kilometre final stage night drive back to Monaco.

But Rohrl turned on a convincing display, edging to 3 minutes 49 seconds ahead of Mikkola at the finish.

"My car caused me no worries," he said after his victory.

John Carlos appointed Olympics liaison officer

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — John Carlos, who was dismissed from the U.S. Olympics in 1968 for a black-power demonstration, has been appointed community relations liaison officer for the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee.

Carlos, 36, will help enlist youth and community groups who want to volunteer to help stage the 1984 Olympics.

Carlos won a bronze medal in the 1968 Olympics, and was expelled from Olympic village along with Tommie Smith, who won a gold medal. Both wore black gloves, a black scarf and black socks, raised their fists in the "black power salute" and bowed their heads as the national anthem was played.

Ursula Konzett halts Erika Hess' winning streak

LENGGRIES, West Germany, Jan. 22 (R) — Ursula Konzett of Liechtenstein scored her first World Cup ski victory today by halting the winning streak of Switzerland's Erika Hess in a slalom decided by a hundredth of a second.

Konzett, 22, won by that tiny margin from Anni Kronbichler of Austria when Hess skied an over-cautious second leg after leading them both by that same fraction in the opening run.

The third place for the 19-year-old Hess ended a streak during which she had won 10 out of 11 World Cup slaloms, including the last four. Her last defeat was in this season's first slalom at Piancavallo, Italy, when Hannu Wenzel of Liechtenstein nudged her into second place.

Third was not enough to earn Hess any World Cup points because she already has 120 from her previous slaloms. Under cup rules whereby only the best five results in each discipline count, she can only collect more slalom points with another win.

She still leads the World Cup standings with 253 points, but the margin was whittled to 11 today. Irene Epple of West Germany collected two points for placing 14th and is second with 242.

Another slalom is set for Berchtesgaden tomorrow, the last before the World Championships in Schladming, Austria, next week.

Flyer, commanded by Conny Van Rietschotel, was the first vessel to reach port on Monday and recorded a real time of 577 hours 22 minutes and 28 seconds on the 9,760-kilometre leg from Auckland, New Zealand.

preceeded by challenger of England at 0237 GMT and Krier IX of France at 2324 GMT last night.

Earlier arrivals were Disque d'Or of Switzerland, Charles Heidsieck III of France, Ceramco of New Zealand, Euromarche of France and Flyer of Holland.

A total of 29 yachts left Portsmouth, England, last Aug. 29 to begin the third round-the-world race sponsored by Britain's Whitbread Brewery and the Royal Naval Sailing Association. Stops were made in South Africa, and Auckland. The boats will depart Mar Del Plata on Feb. 27 for the fourth and final leg back to Portsmouth.

Three more yachts complete third leg of global race

MAR DEL PLATA, Argentina, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — Eight racing yachts out of a fleet of 22 have completed the third leg of the Whitbread round-the-world race, competition organisers said today.

The latest to reach this Atlantic seaside resort were Fargo III of South Africa which crossed the finish line at 1248 GMT today.

The bidding has proceeded: North East South West 1 + Pass 1 0 Pass 1 NT Pass ?

What do you bid now? A. — With an opening bid facing an opening bid, you should be in game, but which game? Don't raise to three or trump — you know the opponents have at least nine hearts between them and, unless partner has solid stop-

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
1981 by Chicago Tribune

Q.1 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A876 ♣ J10952 ♦ 954 ♢ J
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass 1 + 1 + Pass
2 + 3 + Dble Pass ?

What action do you take? A. — We are as keen as anyone about collecting penalties from the opponents, but that doesn't seem to be in the offing on this hand. You have little, if anything, to contribute to the defense; indeed, your only trick may be one that partner is already counting in his hand. It seems improbable that partner, who only made an overcall at his first turn, could produce enough tricks to set the hand. Discretion suggests a timely retreat to three spades.

Q.2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AK10 ♣ A9873 ♦ 963 ♢ Q7
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass ?

What do you bid now? A. — Although you have somewhat better than a minimum opening bid, you can do no more than bid two hearts at this turn. Don't even consider two no trump with no stopper in one of the unbid suits. You can always bid no trump should partner show a diamond stopper, or raise to game in no trump or hearts should partner try for either of those contracts at his next turn. Even five clubs might turn out to be your best contract.

Q.3 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ K93 ♣ 7 ♦ KJ9842 ♠ A96
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 + Pass 1 0 Pass
1 NT Pass ?

What do you bid now? A. — With an opening bid facing an opening bid, you should be in game, but which game? Don't raise to three or trump — you know the opponents have at least nine hearts between them and, unless partner has solid stop-

pers, you may be down before you can collect your tricks. A jump to three clubs seems best. This will create a forcing auction and give partner a chance to show heart values if he has them.

Q.4 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ A87 ♣ J952 ♦ AKQJ5 ♠ A
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♣ Dble Pass 1 + Pass ?

What do you bid now? A. — You have a powerful hand that suggests some strong action. We recommend a jump to three diamonds. Even though this isn't 100 percent forcing, partner will strain to keep the bidding open. If he rebids his spades, showing a five-card suit, we would venture to game in that suit.

Q.5 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J72 ♣ 6 ♦ KQ87 ♠ K9652
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
4 ♣ Pass Pass 4 NT Pass 5 ♣ ?

What action do you take? A. — If you choose to double, you have overlooked something — where have all the hearts gone? Any action by you will almost certainly drive the opponents to a better spot. While there is still the possibility that diamonds won't be the final contract, you should pass in the hopes that the opponents will rest there. If they correct to five hearts, you can then decide whether or not you want to sacrifice at five spades.

Q.6 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ J9 ♣ A9J10 ♦ Q8 ♠ J10932
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 + Pass
2 + Pass 2 + Pass ?

What action do you take? A. — You have 11 points in high cards and good intermediates, so your hand is worth another bid. It is a close decision between a raise to three spades and two no trump. We slightly favor the latter. If partner opened light in third seat with little but long spades, he can always rebid three spades.

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THE SWEDISH EMBASSY IN AMMAN hereby announces that

APPLICATIONS FOR VISAS TO SWEDEN which until now have been received by the office of the Swedish consul-general in Amman, shall as from Monday, Jan. 25, be presented to the Swedish embassy in Amman. All other consular services and functions will also be transferred to the embassy as from the same date.

The reception hours of the embassy are 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. The embassy is closed on Saturday and Sunday.

The embassy is located in Shmeisani, on Khalil Joubran Street (behind the Alia Art Gallery).

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Applicant is a university graduate with vast experience in graphic design, excellent command of the English language and public relations.

For more information or personal interview write to P.O. Box 9421, Amman.

Handwritten signature/initials.

Chinese superstitions resurface after thaw

The reports said that during the exorcism they tied her up and beat her. She died after being suffocated with incense.

One *Feng-Shui* man in Human was blamed for the deaths of two

Each of the commune's 40 villages now has a temple, due to the efforts of 16 Taoist priests and nuns, who had also persuaded overseas Chinese benefactors to switch donations from an electrification project to rebuilding a shrine, it said.

The party newspaper People's Daily made the same point, and blamed the revival of both superstition and illegal gambling on the extremist Cultural Revolution from 1966-76. The party has called for plenty of "civilised and healthy" cultural activities over the Lunar New Year holiday instead.

"The Ainu will disappear because they will finally be assimilated with the Japanese people."

The Ainu are divided mainly into two groups, those who, like Mr. Shitomi and the others here at Akan-Ko, sell wood carvings of bears and salmon and dress up in traditional dress to perform tribal dances.

Over the past century the Ainu have extensively adopted modern Japanese culture so that now only a handful of the oldest can speak the Ainu language, which has no

There is no legal discrimination against the Ainu people but recently Japanese officials have begun referring to the Ainu instead as "utan" (friends) to avoid any discriminatory connotation.

Possible candidates are kindly requested to contact the Italian Embassy, Jabal Luweibdeh, Amman. Tel: 38185

Please send detailed C.V. to the project manager,
P.O. Box 61
Tala' Al Ali, Amman

Arabic courses commence on 31st January. Registration will be from 23rd-28th January, from 9 am - 12 noon and 3:30 - 6 p.m.

With reference to the announcement for pre-qualification tendering of the project which was issued on 5 - 6 - 7 - 8th Dec., 1981, in local newspapers:

The Urban Development Department announces the availability of tender documents for construction of new sites at Quweismeh, Marka and Ruselfa.

Tenders are to be submitted not later than 18th March 1982, and prequalification documents not later than 12 noon 20th February, 1982 from any contractor not previously qualified for this project.

Urban Development Department
P.O. Box 927198
Amman, Jordan

THE BETTER HALF. By Vinson



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"I always wondered why more countries didn't celebrate Thanksgiving Day and it suddenly occurred to me. Maybe they BANNED it."

I LOVE DUNKING DOUGHNUTS!

YOU KNOW HOW A BASKETBALL PLAYER EATS A DOUGHNUT?

SLAM DUNK!

WHY DO I DO THINGS LIKE THAT?

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CRASH!

MOM! DADDY BROKE A WINDOW!!

WE'D HAVE WON EASILY IF IT AIN'T BEEN FOR MY LOUSY GOAL-KEEPIN'!

IT'S ONLY A GAME, CHALKIE. FORGET ABOUT IT.

LEFT SIDE FOR YOU, ANDY - WHICH SIDE FOR YOU, CHALKIE?

EITHER, 'E'S AMBIDEXTROUS - CLUMSY WITH BOTH 'ANDS!

Sam Fels

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

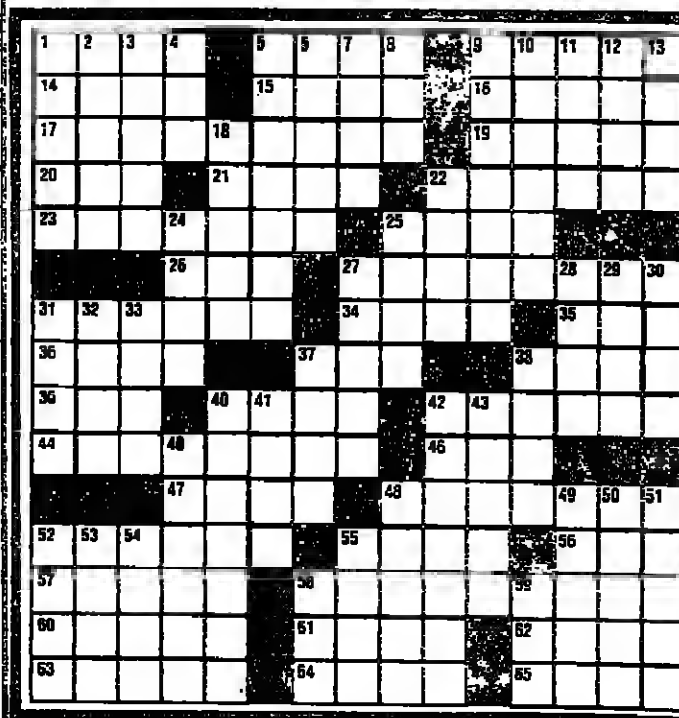
from the **Carroll Righter Institute**

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

ACROSS	31	Ramshackle	55	Stride	25	Well-
1 Kind of		automobile		biblical		behaved
bean	34	Stockings	56	high priest	27	fling out
5 Deep	35	Uncooked	57	Pizzo	28	illad
9 Palm tree	36	Currier's	58	Anglers and		locale
fruit		partner		hunters	29	Tractable
14 Lady of	37	Offer a	60	Strong	30	Pitcher
Camelot		price		point	31	Agree
15 Great Lake	38	Indefinite	61	— avis	32	River in
16 Tennis name		number	62	Javanese		England
17 Later	39	Good: Fr.		tres	33	Camera pa-
19 Medicinal	40	Thailand	63	Small shrub	37	Formal
20 For each	41	plains	64	Pastoral		money
21 For each	44	Group of		poem	38	Water bldg
22 Silvers	45	musicians	65	Not any	40	Burn with

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

PIPER	SHARP	LEON	6	Paper	spread,
DURR	ERATO	ARES	7	Vestment	in music
ABIE	COSTIS	TILE	7	Lean end	50 Chin
MENAREW	WATTHEIR		3	Conducted	51 New York
TIDIE	BERE		9	Merit	51 Cleanse
PLANTED	PRE	RAE	10	Thoroughfare	52 Restaurant
WINTER	ED	OMIT	53	Minister to	53 Military
ALLIS	PAIR	OMIT	11	Sea eagle	54 Aromatic
DRESSERS	SENILE		12	Headliner	55 herb plant
OSS	IMA	ERATES	12	Vulcanized	55 Plummet
STE	BISS		22	Winter wear	58 Hindu title
MOTHERS	MADE	THEM	24	Habsw	59 Source
WRE	SS	TON		prophet	of heat
ROLL	OTTER	CHER			
WELL	NEEDS	OOD			



WORLD

S. Korean president proposes unification with North Korea

SEOUL, Jan. 22 (Agencies) — President Chun Doo-hwan today proposed that North and South Korea adopt a joint constitution but a government spokesman said the Communist North was not expected to reply favourably.

In a state of the nation speech to parliament, the president called for the establishment of a consultative conference for national reunification to draw up a common constitution.

He also repeated his proposal for talks with North Korean President Kim Il-sung on possible reunification.

The north has already rejected the idea of a meeting between the two presidents, saying it will not talk with the political leadership in South Korea.

The government spokesman said that although the government did not expect Pyongyang to be particularly receptive to the latest proposals, it believed it was time to make known its unwavering commitment to national unification following the inauguration of President Chun in March last year.

Talks between North and South Korea, arch enemies since the 1950-1953 Korean war, began under a 1972 joint detente communiqué. But the north called off the contacts in mid-1973, demanding the south discontinue its anti-Communist arrangements.

In February 1980 they began preliminary talks on a meeting between their prime ministers. But the talks made no progress and the north called them off seven months later.

Although it has rejected all attempts to revive dialogue with the Seoul government, North Korea has called for a national congress of political and social organisations, but excluding government authorities, to discuss the unification issue.

It has also proposed direct talks with the United States, Seoul's main ally, on a bilateral peace treaty to replace the 1953 armistice agreement that ended the Korean war.

But Washington has said it will not take part in any talks on Korea without the south.

After talks with President Chun in Washington last February, President Ronald Reagan formally scrapped plans to withdraw about 32,000 U.S. troops from South Korea, saying there was a continuing threat to peace in the Korean Peninsula.

The unification formula was prepared in anticipation of the so far unrealised south-north summit meeting which President Chun proposed last year on Jan. 12, and again on June 5, in order to achieve a breakthrough in the relationship between South and North Korea, and open the way to peaceful unification.

President Chun made it clear in his statement that every possible effort has been and would con-

tinued to be made to realise his proposals for the summit meeting in which all the matters raised by the two parties would be discussed.

His unification formula calls for the formation of a consultative conference for national reunification composed of representatives from the south and north who will represent the views of the residents in both sides.

This organisation could draft a constitution designed to establish a unified democratic republic in the Korean Peninsula committed to the ideals of national integrity, democracy, freedom, and individual well-being.

In the process of drafting a unified constitution, such issues as political ideals, the name of the unified country, basic domestic and foreign policies, the form of government, and the methods and dates of the general elections to establish a unified national assembly could be discussed and agreed upon in the national unification consultative conference.

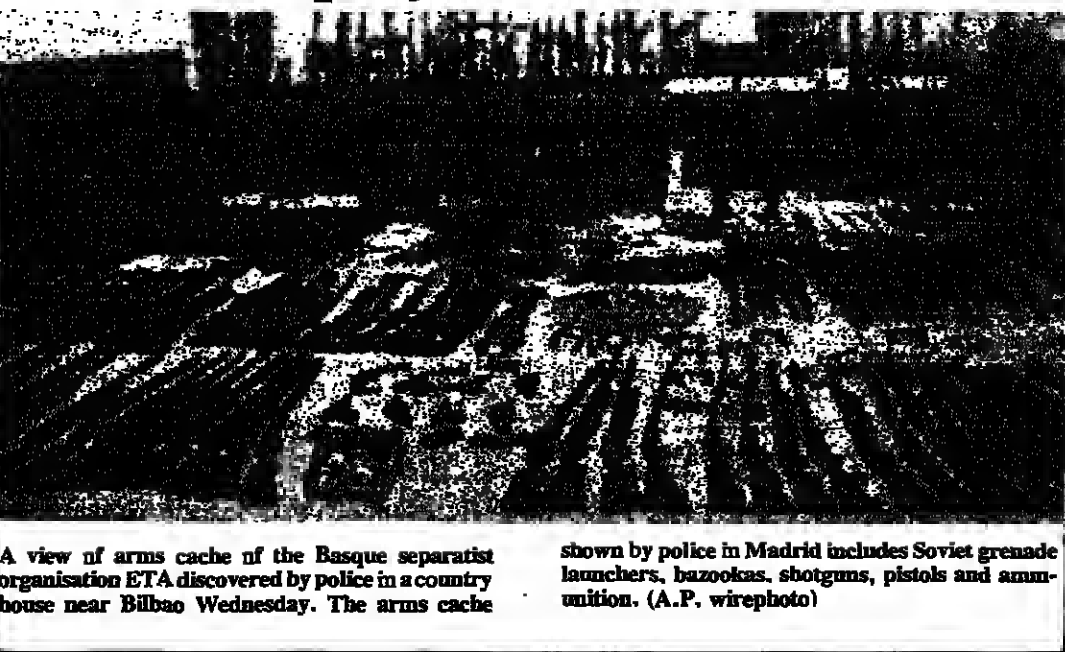
Asian interim measure during the preparatory period pending the achievement of eventual national unification, President Chun proposed the conclusion of a provisional agreement on basic relations between South and North Korea containing following seven provisions:

- Maintenance of mutual relations on the principle of equality and reciprocity.
- Abandonment of the use of all forms of military force and violence, and seeking peaceful solution of all problems through dialogue.
- Mutual recognition of each other's existing political order and non-intervention in each other's internal affairs.
- Maintenance of the regime of the armistice in force and the working out of measures to end the arms race and military confrontation.

- Opening each society to the other, facilitating free travel including the reunion of separated families and promoting exchange and cooperation in various fields.
- Respect for each other's bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements and consultation with each other on issues affecting the interests of the Korean people as a whole.
- Appointment of each other's plenipotentiary envoys with the rank of cabinet minister assigned to resident liaison missions to be established in Seoul and Pyongyang.

Finally he suggested that working-level delegations from both sides headed by cabinet-rank delegates should hold preparatory conference to work out necessary procedures to realise the meeting between the highest authorities of South and North Korea.

Police display ETA arms cache



A view of arms cache of the Basque separatist organisation ETA discovered by police in a country house near Bilbao Wednesday. The arms cache shown by police in Madrid includes Soviet grenade launchers, bazookas, shotguns, pistols and ammunition. (A.P. wirephoto)

Moroccan king to visit France Tuesday

RABAT, Jan. 22 (R) — The palace announced here today that King Hassan of Morocco will visit France next Tuesday to confer with President François Mitterrand during what was described as a working visit.

It will be the first meeting be-

tween the two heads of state since President Mitterrand's election last May. King Hassan last visited France in March last year, when he had talks with former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

Morocco had cordial relations with the former French president,

who is expected here next month on a private visit, but there has been some apprehension in Rabat since the Socialists came to power in France.

There were protests in Morocco when President Mitterrand's Socialist Party took what were considered to be hostile positions towards the domestic situation in Morocco and the Western Sahara dispute.

The French Socialist Party has criticised the arrest of leaders of the Moroccan socialist opposition in September and demanded their release. France recently authorised the opening of a bureau in Paris of the Polisario Front, which is fighting Morocco for independence of the Western Sahara.

However, Morocco appears to be satisfied with the more moderate positions on the same issues taken by the French government.

AWACS reinforce NATO

OBERPFÄFFENHOFEN, West Germany, Jan. 22 (R) — The first of 18 Boeing AWACS (Airborne Warning And Control Systems) aircraft, whose total cost will be \$1.9 billion, was handed over to NATO at the Dornier aircraft factory here today.

U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Leighton Palmerton, commander of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's airborne early warning force, said the event communicated to the Eastern bloc that

NATO was deadly serious in its defence commitments.

The planes will enable NATO to watch ground and air traffic movement up to 400 kilometres inside hostile territory.

The U.S. is meeting 42.12 per cent of the costs of the programme and West Germany is paying 30.7 per cent. Other NATO countries, led by Canada with 9.7 per cent and Italy with 5.6 per cent, are making up the remainder.

Deadly needle to solve Newport murder attempt case

NEWPORT, Rhode Island, Jan. 22 (R) — Safely under lock and key somewhere in the office of the attorney general of Rhode Island is a small, steel hypodermic needle.

Whether a jury is allowed to see the needle may help determine whether Claus von Bulow continues to remain among his high society friends on Newport's millionaires row or is consigned to 20 years with the convicts of the state penitentiary.

Mr. von Bulow, 55 Danish ex-aidé of oil magnate J. Paul Getty, is accused of twice jabbing the needle — filled with insulin — into his heirless wife Martha and putting her into a coma from which she may never recover.

The syringe is the kingpin in a story, as told by the prosecution, of sex, drugs, aristocracy, big

money, a mistress, a prostitute and a murder plot straight out of Agatha Christie.

It is a story that has scandalised this wealthy summer colony where the Vanderbilts and the Astors build the palaces they called their "cottages."

With a jury of seven men and five women finally selected after seven days of courtroom duelling, Judge Thomas Needham will hear defence arguments to exclude both the needle and the other main prosecution exhibit, a three-hour statement Mr. von Bulow made to police.

Mr. von Bulow is alleged to have given his wife, 49, the injections at Christmas 1979 and Christmas 1980 knowing she had a medical condition — low blood sugar — which made insulin poisonous.

His alleged motives: his wife's

fortune of up to \$50-million and an affair with a woman 20 years his junior, Alexander Isles.

The state has lined up 73 witnesses, including Mr. von Bulow's chief accusers, his wife's devoted stepson and stepdaughter by his wife's first marriage, Prince Alexander and Princess Ana von Auersperg.

It was Prince Alex, a 22-year-old student, who found the syringe in a little black leather bag in Mr. von Bulow's bedroom closet.

He took the syringe to Dr. Richard Stock, Mrs. von Bulow's physician since 1956, who says he discovered traces of insulin on the hypodermic syringe.

The maid alleges that Mr. von Bulow carried the bag constantly between Newport and the couple's Fifth Avenue apartment in New York and that she once saw a

U.K. centrist alliance looses popular support

LONDON, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — Support for Britain's centrist political alliance between the Social Democrats and Liberals has slumped from 50.5 per cent in December to 39.5 per cent, according to a Gallup poll published today.

In the interim, the alliance formed last summer became strained when the two parties argued publicly over which seats they will contest in the next general election, due by May 1984.

The long-established Liberal Party is reluctant to stand aside for new Social Democratic Party (SDP) candidates in districts they have contested tooth-and-nail in the past.

Liberal leader David Steel, and the four SDP co-leaders Roy Jenkins, Shirley Williams, William Rodgers and David Owen are trying to patch up their differences. The poll taken last week for the

London Daily Telegraph asked voters which party they would support in an election.

In December the SDP led all parties with 36 per cent and the Liberals had 14.5 per cent—together they commanded the support of half the country.

But the latest poll showed Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's ruling Conservative Party, and the opposition Labour Party recovering ground.

The breakdown was: Labour 29.5 per cent, Conservative 27.5, SDP 26.5, Liberal 13 and others 3.5.

In December, the Labour percentage was 23.5 and Conservatives polled an all-time low 23 per cent.

Mrs. Thatcher's personal popularity also rose from a record low 25 per cent last month to 32 per cent.

Mujahedeen say more than 25,000 prisoners in Iran

LONDON, Jan. 22 (R) — The leftist people's Mujahedeen organisation which is opposed to Iran's revolutionary government said today there were between 25,000 to 30,000 political prisoners in Iranian jails.

The Paris office of the Mujahedeen leader, Massoud Rajavi, said in a statement telephoned to Reuters that the figures had been obtained from prisoners' families.

Most were jailed after Islamic fundamentalists ousted President Abol Hassan Bani-Sadr last June and cracked down on opponents of the regime, according to the statement.

A majority were members of

the Mujahedeen who have been in the forefront of a campaign to end the rule of revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The statement said 8,000 political prisoners were in Tehran's top security Evin Prison where rooms were packed with inmates who found it difficult to sleep or rest.

It said jails in other big cities such as Isfahan, Mashad, Tabriz had the largest number of prisoners after Tehran.

Local revolutionary committees had their own "torture houses" where detainees are kept and beaten before being taken to official jails, the statement charged.

The Mujahedeen also alleged that torture was widespread in the jails despite denials by the Iranian authorities.

The statement said rape, flogging, electrical shocks and prevention of sleep were among common forms of torture.

Under Iran's Islamic constitution, torturing political prisoners with the aim of obtaining confession is forbidden.

The Mujahedeen appealed to Amnesty International organisation and other human rights groups to visit the jails.

Yugoslav leader to visit Africa

BELGRADE, Jan. 22 (R) — Yugoslav Foreign Minister Josip Vrhovac leaves tomorrow on a two-week trip to Africa which will include visits to Angola, Mozambique, Madagascar and Kenya, the foreign ministry announced today.

Geneva talks recess

GENEVA, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — U.S. and Soviet negotiators conferred today on limiting nuclear arms in Europe, then recessed until Thursday, two days after Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko met.

The arms talks, which Mr. Haig has said represent "a very special category of East-West relations," have been held twice a week, usually on Tuesdays and Fridays. Today's session was the 10th full bargaining round and lasted for more than two hours.

The two sides have agreed negotiations. The chief Soviet delegate, Yuri A. Kvitsinsky, in a chance meeting with a reporter on Wednesday, said in English that the talks were going "so-so."

Mr. Haig and Mr. Gromyko are to confer on Tuesday at the U.S. mission in Geneva. Mr. Haig has said the events in Poland will be at the top of his agenda. Another aim is to establish a date for opening strategic arms control negotiations, to complement the intermediate range missile talks.

Italian terror probe nets 3rd corpse in lake

ROME, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — Police divers today retrieved another body from a lake near Rome, the third corpse to be found there in less than a week, police reported.

First reports said an unidentified woman's body was found in a Fiat car on the bed of the lake at Guidonia east of Rome.

Six days ago police recovered the chain-bound corpse of two men who were later identified as Vincenzo Travaglione and Gennaro Mondello, suspected members of the ultra-right terror gang New Order, who disappeared two years ago. Mondello had a police record for narcotics traffic.

British Rail conductors stage wildcat strike

LONDON, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — The commuter rush into London was snarled again today when rebel conductors staged a wildcat walkout on British Rail trains the day after an official two-day strike ended.

Auto clubs reported traffic buildups on approaches to London from southern countries worst hit by the walkout.

The conductors, member of the National Union of Railwaymen, closed seven depots in the southern region at midnight yesterday despite a plea from union leaders.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Italian farmer freed after shootout

ROME, Jan. 22 (R) — Police firing sub-machine guns today freed an Italian farm-worker taken hostage by urban guerrillas after they robbed a bank and killed two policemen yesterday. They said the dawn shootout took place near Viterbo, central Italy, when police stopped a small farm vehicle. No one appeared to have been injured in the shooting. The gang, two men and two women, fled on foot, leaving behind the money and arms. The farm worker and his vehicle were commandeered after the gang shot dead two policemen outside the Tuscan city of Siena. A fifth member of the gang was killed by police in the exchange of fire at a roadblock. Police sources said they believed the guerrillas belonged to the left-wing Front Line group and suspected that both women were recently freed in a spectacular jail-break. One of the four women who escaped from the jail was thought to have been a former Red Brigades leader suspected of taking part in the kidnapping and murder of Christian Democrat politician Aldo Moro in 1978.

Thais fight with 'Golden Triangle' boss

BANGKOK, Jan. 22 (A.P.) — A major battle between Thai government forces and the key opium warlord of the so-called "Golden Triangle" continued into its second day today along the Thai-Burmese border, a border patrol police spokesman said. The spokesman said several hundred policemen, supported by helicopter gunships, were battling against well-armed troops of Khun Sa, alias Chang Shi Fu, who allegedly had been supervising the movement of an opium caravan from Burma into Thailand. Khun Sa leads the Uhan United Army, a rebel force engaged in opium smuggling and heroin production in the border area of Thailand, Laos and Burma known as "the Golden Triangle." The spokesman said seven border patrol policemen had been wounded in fighting around Baan Hin Taek and Baan Uaensob Lae, two villages straddling the Burmese border in the Thai province of Chiang Rai. According to Thai and U.S. sources, Khun Sa is capable of mustering between 2,500 and 4,000 men and has a large quantity of weapons, including mortars and heavy machine guns. Khun Sa, who is believed to be in his 40s, is of Chinese origin. He began putting together his army in 1963, facing stiff competition in Burma from the remnants of the Kuomintang, the Chinese nationalist army which had fled the Communist takeover.

By Ranko Petkovic

ROOTED IN THE GREAT social and international changes which occurred during World War II, non-alignment appeared, as a concept and option, in a situation in which the confrontation of the great powers and the partition of the world into blocs seriously threatened world peace. The foundations of the old international order were shaken by anti-colonial revolutions and national self-determination. The gap between the highly developed North and the developing South took on dramatic proportions. Socialism spread all over the world. There was increasing divergence of views between those who wished to follow the ideals of the United Nations and those who had begun to threaten the freedom, independence and equality of other nations.

Yet non-alignment is not the direct result of any one of these aspects of the post-war or present-day international situation. For if we merely viewed non-alignment against the background of the bipolarisation of international relations, this policy would simply be a reaction to the bloc system and a feature of that partition. If we reduced non-alignment to the result of anti-colonial revolutions, to which it admittedly owes much, then it would only relate to two or three continents, and be a purely regional concept. If, again, we placed it exclusively within the framework of North-South relations, it would turn into a means of economic revenge, a club for the poor. If we linked it entirely to the process of world socialism, it would assume undesired ideological overtones and merely become part and parcel of existing doctrinal divisions. If it became identified with the ideas and framework of the United Nations, it would lose its own political and activist identity. It is, therefore, only when all these factors acted together that non-alignment was "born".

Like all great ideas in history, non-alignment, as a political programme, appeared among different nations at different times, but always as an expression of the same desire for peace, freedom, independence, equality, economic improvement and social justice.

In Yugoslavia, the idea of non-alignment was already anticipated in the national liberation struggle and socialist revolution of 1941-1945 under

the guidance of Marshal Tito as an expression of the clear and firm determination of our peoples to be masters of their own destiny. The same aspiration consumed Nehru and his fellow freedom-fighters when India was struggling for independence, just as it was part of the political vision of the other great founders of the non-aligned movement: Nasser, Nkrumah, Soekarno, and other leaders of non-aligned countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Europe.

Tearing apart the bipolar conception of international relations imposed by the great power blocs in their attempt to divide the world into spheres of interest, the anti-colonial revolution drew into the international community countries who had already, at meetings in Africa and Asia, declared themselves against inclusion in the bloc conflict and in favour of the principles of active and peaceful co-existence. Their voices were especially



The three (late) founders of Non-Aligned Movement: Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru of India and Josip Broz Tito

loud at the 1955 Bandung Conference, which was a clear proof that structural changes had occurred in the international community that offered real opposition to bloc policies and divisions.

This was, in fact, a prelude to the great historical event that was to follow — the meeting between Tito, Nasser, and Nehru at Brioni in 1956. On that occasion the three leaders formulated a political programme on a universal basis, which meant that the policy of non-alignment was to emerge from its regional shell and come to represent multilateral action by the nations.

A great historical event was the Belgrade Conference of heads of state or governments of the non-aligned nations held from Sept. 1-6, 1961. Here the foundations of the Non-Aligned Movement were laid and the movement was established as an independent, non-bloc, global force in international relations. The formula laid down was of lasting importance and contained the basic principles of non-alignment. These were to prove a constant inspiration and signpost in the activities of the non-aligned countries. The movement and policy of non-alignment were to prove the only alternative to the policy from the position of strength and reliable guide in the struggle for a new system of international political and economic relations.

This was one of the crucial moments in human history. In the complex and contradictory situation in the contemporary world, the movement and policy of non-alignment act as the spearhead of a broad-fronted and all-embracing political campaign designed to base the whole system of international political and economic relations on new peaceful, democratic, and progressive foundations. As an independent, non-bloc, and global factor in international relations, non-alignment opens up the possibility of overcoming the tense and dangerous situation created by the two power blocs in all domains of international political and economic life. By offering political alternatives and a constructive platform for the solution of the intricate problems of the modern world, the movement and policy of non-alignment firmly oppose the forces of domination and hegemony and make an outstanding contribution to the strengthening of peace, independence and equality among nations, economic development and social progress. In this sense, they are an expression and a constituent part

of the legitimate tendencies of historical development in the second half of the 20th century.

Given these historical attributes, non-alignment represents the broadest framework within which all peoples and nations can realise their vital national interests. By opposing the division of the world into blocs and extending support to those nations which are fighting for freedom and independence, the non-aligned countries have made an enormous contribution to the successful outcome of the anti-colonial revolution and the consolidation of the national independence of newly-liberated states, who themselves have played a great part in changing the structure of the entire international community. Its uninterrupted struggle for world peace and the principles of active and peaceful co-existence has meant that the non-aligned movement has created basic preconditions for strengthening national security, speeding up economic development, stimulating social progress, as well as the equal and active participation of all countries in international relations.

By fighting to change the present state of the world economy and international economic relations, which are based on exploitation, discrimination and domination, non-alignment is creating the necessary historical conditions for the non-aligned and the developing nations to attain full freedom and independence, and economic prosperity. No other concept of gathering together individual states or groups of states provides such a wide framework nor such real possibilities for the free and independent development of all countries and the coordination and implementation of their vital common interests and aims.

In the course of the movement's twenty years of existence and activity, non-alignment has made a notable contribution to limiting and opposing the destructive results of bloc policy and has initiated and supported positive tendencies in world political and economic development. During this period, in which the number of non-aligned countries has increased almost fourfold, the non-aligned movement has affirmed itself as an independent, non-bloc, and global factor in international relations, and it is this which is the permanent source of its strength, reputation, and influence.

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